

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

PY131408 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor told the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Human Rights that the policy maintained by our country has made it possible for this subject to be discussed by international organizations within a framework of greater respect for the principle of nonintervention in domestic affairs of other countries.

Pastor addressed a group of diplomats and officials during a meeting held at San Martin Palace yesterday. The Foreign Ministry reported that an evaluation was made during these deliberations on the actions carried out at international forums and that they exchanged ideas on what to do in the future.

SIX NEW CIVILIAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS NAMED

PY132338 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2312 GMT 13 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (TELAM)--A list of six civilians who will become governors of the provinces of San Juan, Formosa, Catamarca, La Pampa, Entre Rios and Jujuy was officially released tonight. Their tenure will begin on 29 March, coinciding with the inauguration of Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola.

Jorge Washington Ferreyra, who is now the Argentine ambassador to Spain, will be the governor of Entre Rios Province; Rafael Zenon Jauregui, a former senator and former vice governor of Jujuy Province, will be the governor of Jujuy Province; Arnaldo Anibal Castillo, mayor of the capital of Catamarca Province, will be the governor of Catamarca Province; Domingo Rodriguez Castro, mayor of the capital of San Juan Province, will be the governor of San Juan Province; Rodolfo Emilio Ehiner, social action secretary of Formosa Province, will be governor of Formosa Province; and Ricardo Jose Telleriarte, economy minister of Pampa Province, will be the governor of Pampa Province.

BRIEFS

LOCUST PROBLEM--Catamarca--The town of Chumbicha, 45 km from the provincial capital of Catamarca, has been practically invaded by locusts. These insects are causing great losses to local plantations and considerable damage to local businesses. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Mar 81 PY]

GDP DROPS--(NA)--The Gross Domestic Product fell 0.3 percent during 1980, according to a story in the daily CONVICCION yesterday which said that both industrial and agricultural production fell last year, agricultural production dropped six percent and industrial production four percent. The CDP rose only 7.7 percent during the past 5 years, the newspaper said. In the 5 years before that it had risen 27.4 percent. [Text] [Buenos Aires HERALD in English 15 Mar 81 p 9 PY]

AIR FORCE SECRETARY GENERAL--Buenos Aires, 12 Mar (TELAM)--On 10 March Brig Gen Rodolfo Aquilino Guerra became the new secretary general of the air force. He replaces Major Gen Arturo Lami Dozo, the current commander of air operations. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0030 GMT 13 Mar 81 PY]

PRESIDENT DENIES RUMORS OF JUNTA DISCORD

PY122201 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Excerpts] President Luis Garcia Meza today categorically denied the rumors of disagreements in the junta of commanders. He asserted that the military is firmly united around the National Reconstruction Government.

This statement was made to the national news media by the president after the cabinet meeting. He was accompanied by the other members of the junta of commanders, Gen Waldo Bernal and Vice Adm Ramiro Terrazas.

To begin with, the president referred to the rumors circulating in the last few days about alleged disagreements within the superior military command and said that those rumors were mercenary and untrue.

President Garcia Meza then asserted that the cabinet reshuffle was made solely with the intention of giving more participation in the government to the civilian sector.

INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORTS TRANQUILLITY ACROSS NATION

PY121607 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] According to a report released by the Interior Ministry, there is complete tranquillity in all private and public activities across the nation.

The report was released after inquiries made by the press. The ministry reiterated that those who disseminate rumors will be drastically punished in order to preserve the tranquillity of the population and that the security organizations have special instructions to control the actions of any elements capable of obstructing public order. It was reported, however, that according to reports received from several districts of the country, there has been no disruption of order and that private and public activities are being carried out normally.

NEW TIMETABLE FOR POLITICAL INSTITUTIONALIZATION

PY152030 Paris AFP in Spanish 1524 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 14 Mar (AFP)--The Bolivian Foreign Ministry has announced that institutionalization timetable has been drawn up, and according to political analysts, this could culminate in a democratic opening, the precise details of which are still difficult to determine.

The announcement coincides with the spread of a series of rumors, which have been officially denied by the president, Gen Luis Garcia Meza, who has given assurances that he will stay on as head of government.

Gen Garcia Meza in a speech delivered in Cochabamba (central Bolivia) yesterday made a call for the unity of the military and civilians, and at the same time assured that the armed forces government is committed to the young generations.

The military government is getting ready to take new measures to obtain recognition from the United States, for which purpose they have repeatedly announced intentions to broaden the struggle against narcotics trafficking and to facilitate the return to a state of law.

DECREE ON NEW COUNCIL TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY122126 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text of Bolivian Government Decree No 18,121, issued in La Paz on 11 March 1981]

[Text] Inasmuch as Gen Luis Garcia Meza Tejada, president of the republic considers:

That drug trafficking has increased alarmingly because of an inordinate foreign economic stimulus and has thus grown beyond the jurisdiction exercised by the National Board for Control of Dangerous Drugs, both because of the shortage of personnel of the board and its lack of adequate means to confront that campaign throughout the country;

That it is the constitutional duty of the armed forces to preserve the human capital, prestige and security of the nation;

That the planting and cultivation of coca has a particular social importance which makes it necessary to plan the marketing of this product in the mining and peasant sectors in order to meet natural and traditional consumption through a simultaneous and gradual eradication [as heard], he decrees in the Council of Ministers:

Article 1. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking is created. It will comprise: A) one representative of the president as director of the armed forces National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking; B) one representative of the Interior, Migration and Justice Ministry; C) one representative of the Social Welfare and Public Health Ministry; D) one representative of the Education and Culture Ministry; E) one representative of the Peasant Affairs, Agriculture and Livestock Ministry; F) one representative of the National Mining Chamber; G) one representative of the Peasants Confederation; H) one representative of the social communications media; I) one representative of the Red Cross; and J) one representative of civic or similar social institutions.

Article 2. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking will be the highest organization entrusted with fighting against the processing, marketing and consumption of narcotics. It should limit production of coca leaves to certain areas subject to legal rules and regulations in order to meet the demand of mineworkers and peasants.

Article 3. The National Board for Control of Dangerous Drugs and the Coca Marketing Department, hitherto responsible to the Interior Ministry, will now be organizations responsible to the National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking.

Article 4. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking is authorized to coordinate its activities with all international organizations, such as Interpol, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and others which have the duty of controlling drug trafficking.

Article 5. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking will comply with all former legal rules regarding this subject, as long as they do not contradict the present decree.

Article 6. All legal rules contrary to the present decree are repealed.

The ministers at their respective posts are responsible for the execution and fulfillment of this decree.

Given at Government Palace in the city of La Paz on 11 March 1981.

PAPER COMMENTS ON NEW U.S. TEAM TO LOS CONFERENCE

PY161740 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Mar p 14

[By Luiz Barbosa]

[Text] Although Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro continues to maintain a low key in expressing his wishes that the work of 14 years be preserved, Itamaraty can no longer conceal its fears that the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea could fail because of the United States.

The joint declaration signed by Presidents Joao Figueiredo and Turbay Ayala in Bogota included, in response to Brazil's suggestion, a warning on the need that all countries continue to actively contribute to promoting a future international convention and that no regressions should occur with regard to the achievements made thus far.

The foreign minister noted that no substantial changes will result from President Ronald Reagan's surprising decision to replace all members of the U.S. team of negotiators at the Conference on the Law of the Sea with a group of men who are openly linked to the interests of mining enterprises. Yet his ostensibly naive, hopeful remarks entail serious charges on the meaning of the above change.

For instance, commenting on the fact that all countries have great interest in negotiating the treaty, the minister deliberately declined to specify the nature of this interest. In the case of the United States, military interest--the use of the sea for tactical, strategic operations involving the utilization of nuclear submarines, intercontinental missiles, electronic surveillance equipment--is in direct conflict with the purely economic, commercial interests of mining enterprises which do not favor any agreement so they may freely exploit the seabed resources.

As Itamaraty's leading authority on this matter (along with no more than six other diplomats, including Ambassadors Carlos Calero Rodriguez, Celso Souza e Silva and Judge Sergio Thompson Flores), the Brazilian foreign minister is well aware that without U.S. participation--just as would happen without Soviet participation--an international Convention on the Law of the Sea would be useless.

Although he talks about continuity of the UN conference even in the case of an eventual U.S. withdrawal, Saraiva Guerreiro actually knows the latter will not happen. The worst that could happen under the new U.S. team of lawyers led by James Mallone, an intransigent negotiator, assisted by Ros Katimer, a former lobbyist of mining enterprises, is that the Reagan administration could freeze U.S. participation in the conference by raising additional obstacles to the optimistic goals held by other delegations--including Brazil--of reaching a consensus on the most complex issues within 7 or 8 months.

Having virtually reached complete agreement on what is known as the classical part of the Law of the Sea--which includes sovereignty limits, navigation, preservation of the environment, protection of natural resources, the innocent passage of military ships and the utilization of the sea for military purposes--the next most important issue is the one dealing with the seabed. The way the agreement is now drafted, half of the seabed resources will be administered by an agency charged with supervising and controlling exploitation. The seabed contains such a large amount of polymetallic nodules rich in nickel, manganese, copper and cobalt that their unrestrained exploitation might cause major disruption of the international trade balance in these metals, which are today the cornerstone of the economy of developing countries such as Peru, Chile, Zambia and Zimbabwe; or are still monopolized by rich nations such as France, Canada, and the United States and the Soviet Union themselves, as in the specific case of nickel.

For almost an entire decade, before he was appointed secretary general or even foreign minister, Ambassador Saraiva Guerreiro was used to identifying the U.S. negotiating team at the sea conference with the quiet figure of Elliot Richardson, a liberal American who was able to act freely within the Democratic administration of President Jimmy Carter. Richardson withdrew from the U.S. delegation even before Ronald Reagan's election, but he continued to be an adviser to the team. His second in command was George Aldrige, another liberal, white, Protestant and Anglo Saxon figure--a true WASP, something that is most appreciated by the conservatives in the Republican Party. Despite this and despite the identification of these men with the new U.S. Vice President George Bush, President Ronald Reagan did not hesitate to appoint as new members to the U.S. negotiating team experienced lawyers notoriously linked to mining enterprises (led by Kennecott and groups linked to German and Japanese capitals) which are interested in having full freedom to exploit the seabed without complying with the limitations included in the draft agreement which has already been partially accepted by the UN Conference.

These limitations foresee among other things the possibility that some technically developed countries may exercise a monopoly in the exploitation of resources. They therefore establish that a substantial amount of resources should be reserved for future exploitation by other countries that will achieve the same level of technological development.

Moreover, the draft agreement also assures a balance of the international metal market through a rational control on the exploration of underwater resources.

Even after President Reagan was elected, many experts on maritime affairs within and outside Itamaraty's influence hoped that the United States would base its position on its military interests, that is, in favor of holding an international Conference on the Law of the Sea that would yield an agreement encompassing other issues of greater strategic importance for the superpowers, such as the navigation of straits (Gibraltar, Hormuz, Magellan, among others), the right of submarine navigation by military units without the need to surface or fly their flag and the inclusion of measures to assure the freedom to install submarine electronic listening devices that are essential for the Pentagon defense program.

Because of this, there was a general belief at the New York-Geneva Law of the Sea conference that the points of view of the Pentagon and those of the State Department would complement those of the U.S. Department of Mines and Energy and the Department of Commerce. But Reagan has imposed economic arguments over strategic issues in choosing his new negotiating team.

To compensate for a possible freeze on U.S. participation, there is a hope that the USSR will become much more flexible in its demands for signing a final agreement. If this is the case, all those obstacles that have been posed by the EEC and the PLO, or the inclusion of some reservations in the agreement, may be overcome more easily.

Without having any effective possibility of influencing the U.S. position, Itamaraty aims to achieve a so-called balanced agreement between the parties involved in the UN conference, particularly with those South American partners which have enforced the 200-mile limit and which had a decisive role in breaking the old taboo on enforcing sovereignty rights beyond the range of cannon fire.

The Foreign Ministry and the Navy Ministry, along with the Agriculture Ministry (SUDEPE) [Superintendency for Development of the Fishing Industry] and the National Security Council--all of the which share a position contrary to the presently enforced Law of the Sea--support a more progressive position which upholds 12 miles followed by an exclusive economic zone of 100 miles, in addition to the new criteria for enforcing a 200-mile limit.

NAVY COMMANDER HOSPITALIZED DURING RECEPTION

PY131407 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] The Presidential Press Secretariat has reported that Adm Jose Toribio Merino, navy commander and junta member, fainted during a reception given by President Augusto Pinochet in La Moneda Palace last night.

The navy commander was taken to the military hospital where he got a medical check up early this morning. Although the hospital has not released a report, it has been learned that according to first indications, it is nothing serious and that Admiral Merino fainted because of the extremely busy activities carried out in the last few days.

The Presidential Press Secretariat stated that any report on the health of the navy commander will be released by the naval command exclusively.

EXILE OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER UPHELD

PY130237 Paris AFP in Spanish 1429 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 10 Mar (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Supreme Court has approved the government decree through which Andres Zaldivar, the president of the Christian Democratic Party, was expelled from Chile.

Zaldivar was making a tour through Europe in October 1980 when the military government headed by President Augusto Pinochet prohibited his return to Chile on charges that he was leading a slander campaign abroad against Chile. The Supreme Court decided that the decree which ordered the exile of the politician is legal, and it closed the case, refusing to consider an appeal that was submitted by the defense. Zaldivar has no judicial means to appeal this decision, since now it can only be done by the government itself.

It was noted that since the coming to power of the present military regime 7 years ago, political parties have either been in recess or outlawed, as in Marxist countries.

BRIEFS

SOUTH AFRICAN, HONDURAN AMBASSADORS--The government has approved the appointments of John Raimond Dutton as the new South African ambassador to Chile, and of Cesar Coello Herdocia as Honduran ambassador. [Santiago ERCILLA in Spanish 25 Feb 81 p 6 PY]

CONVENTION ON TREATIES APPROVAL--Santiago, 13 Mar (AFP)--It was announced today that Chile has ratified, with reservations, the Vienna Convention of 1969 which established the immutability of treaties and which seeks uniformity of juridical norms for implementing such protocols. Chile's adherence to the accord takes exception to the articles which provide that a fundamental change in the circumstances which prevailed at the time of the signing of a treaty and which was not foreseen by the parties to it can serve as cause for the termination of the treaty, for withdrawing from it or suspending its application. One of the traditional pillars of Chilean foreign policy is respect for its treaties, some of which determine the territorial boundaries with its neighbors Argentina, Peru and Bolivia [Paris AFP in Spanish 1510 GMT 13 Mar 81 PY]

REGULATION OF NEW PUBLICATIONS--On 11 March, the Interior Ministry issued Decree No 2,775 which provides that from that date the ministry's prior approval will be required for the creation, publication and circulation of new publications within the national territory. [Text] [Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0116 GMT 14 Mar 81 PY]

ENERGY MINISTER VIEWS DOMESTIC FUEL SITUATION

PA130320 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] Natural Resources and Energy Minister Cesar Robalino Gonzaga spoke at the nation's hydrocarbon potential and said that proven and extractable petroleum reserves amount to less than 1 billion barrels and said that Ecuador has enough petroleum for some 10 or 12 years.

[Begin recording] According to the information supplied by hydrocarbon technicians, we have a little less than 1 billion barrels of proven and extractable reserves. Our production rate is some 75-76 million barrels yearly. This means that we have barely enough for some 12 years. Because of this situation, this decade will be difficult because petroleum is a basic and strategic element for the nation's developments. If we fail in our planning, this will be a very difficult decade for Ecuador.

Since the government is convinced of this situation because it is based on hard facts, we have been making great efforts to increase our reserves through the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation [CEPE] and in other areas in which CEPE is a shareholder or partner, as in the CEPE-Texaco trust.

The reduction of domestic fuel sales ensures our reserves and export surpluses, but as I said, this is not enough, and this is why we believe that we must advance to another stage; that is, to attract risk capital from abroad. [end recording]

As regards the drilling of new oil wells, the minister emphasized:

[Begin recording] The government is making a huge effort to increase reserves; this is why we have incorporated several oil fields this year. As you may remember, we incorporated the Yucas field, with an 8,000 barrel production in January. On Monday, we incorporated another field with an output of 4,200 barrels. This shows that the national government is working very hard to increase the country's petroleum reserves. Nevertheless, the government is convinced that its efforts are not enough. The nation's reserves are scant and will not last too many more years. This is why the government believes that we must give an opening to foreign risk capital, and this is why I am renewing a dialogue with the deputies of the legislative commissions. [end recording]

Regarding an evaluation of the new economic measures decreed by the government, especially on fuel price increases, the minister said:

[Begin recording] What I see is that the various economic sectors which in one way or another consume fuel are gradually adjusting to the situation. I would say that some of them are completely adjusted today. For example, those who own private automobiles are completely adjusted to the new price levels. Also, all urban transportation is completely adjusted to the new levels. The industrial sector has partially adjusted and others are also adjusting. The fishing sector, a very special case and a very important one for the government for several reasons, is having the most difficulties adjusting. I could mention a number of measures and actions in the economic field, and deputy [name indistinct] has given me several suggestions. He is very well informed on the fishing sector. [end recording]

TROOPS WITHDRAWING FROM BORDER CONFLICT REGION

PY161831 Paris AFP in Spanish 1818 GMT 16 Mar 91

[Excerpts] Lima, 16 Mar (AFP)--Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella reported today that Peru and Ecuador this morning began withdrawing their troops which had been concentrated in the border area as a result of the armed conflict on the Condor Mountain region.

The foreign minister indicated that the withdrawal, which marks the beginning of the second phase of the effort to strengthen peace, has been going on since 0800 local time (1300 GMT) following the recommendation of the four countries which act as guarantors of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol.

Arias Stella reported that yesterday he received a note from the guarantor countries sent from Brasilia in which they conveyed to him that their observers had verified that the cease-fire is complete and that the troops stationed in the Condor Mountain Range have been totally disengaged.

They also conveyed to him that the conditions were now appropriate for the withdrawal of troops from the area of Tumbes (Peru) and Machala (Ecuador), where most of the troops of both countries were stationed, and recommended that this withdrawal begin at 1300 GMT today, instructions which have been complied with by the two parties.

The minister indicated that this operation will be carried out gradually and that in the meantime negotiations will be launched to resume highway and air traffic as well as the border trade, all of which have been suspended since the beginning of hostilities.

He added that there could also be contacts for the reopening of projects which the two countries must carry out jointly, and that the fundamental issues concerning the implementation of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol will be discussed at a later stage.

Furthermore, the Peruvian foreign minister expressed satisfaction over the interest of his Ecuadorean counterpart, Alfonso Barreda, concerning the reopening of border trade and stressed that the cities in the area are suffering from the paralysis of this trade.

He also recalled that this new stage of peace-seeking actions had been proposed by the military negotiators of the two nations in notes sent to the guarantor countries on the morning of 5 March.

In fact, the vice admirals had stated in their notes the predisposition of the governments to withdraw the troops as soon as the guarantor nations (Brazil, the United States, Argentina and Chile) set the time for it.

Arias Stella concluded by stating that this new step forward allows us to look upon our future with more optimism, because the peace between the two neighboring nations will continue gaining strength.

ENVOYS TRAVEL TO EXPLAIN BORDER DISPUTE POSITION

PY111422 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Yesterday Congressmen Jose Carlos Martin of the Popular Action Party, AP, and Enrique Bernaldes of the Unity of the Left, UI, left for Cuba, Panama, Nicaragua and Guyana as representatives to explain the Peruvian thesis on the Peru-Ecuador conflict.

During the 11-day trip the Peruvian authorities will meet with the foreign ministers of the countries they visit and they will hold conferences to explain the noble Peruvian participation in the agreement reached with Ecuador.

BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR VIEWS HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS

PY162218 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0102 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Lima, 15 Mar (LATIN)--The new Bolivian ambassador in Lima, Jorge Escobari, today denied that relations between his country and Peru had been interrupted and at the same time criticized the great powers for their discriminatory policies. He added that Bolivia supports the integration process in all its forms because of its exceptional position in the continent and the fact that it is linked to all three hydrographic systems: the River Plate, the Amazon and the Pacific. We are a country with relations with all of our sister nations of the Americas, said the diplomat who gave a press conference at the international airport.

Escobari has replaced former Ambassador Walter Montenegro, who resigned last July when former President Lidia Gueiler was overthrown by the armed forces and Gen Luis Garcia Meza was named chief of the Bolivian Government. Peruvian-Bolivian relations have cooled in the last 7 months, and only 3 weeks ago did Peru accept Escobari's appointment, normalizing relations between the two countries.

The diplomat said, however, that "relations between Peru and Bolivia were never interrupted. He added that his country has never ceased to be a member of the Andean Group, a group Bolivia helped to create in 1969. He said that Bolivia does question decisions of political nature and called on the subregional agreement to make only integrationist and not political decisions. The Bolivian Government decided a few months ago to abstain from attending the meetings of the Andean Group until the organization concentrates exclusively on integration matters and withdraws from involvement in political matters, said the ambassador. The Andean Pact, which will be 12 years old next May, is made up by Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

The ambassador believes that the United States has not yet recognized General Garcia Meza's government because it is not aware of the real situation of the country. He said that the great powers of our hemisphere must realize that it is not possible to continue with discriminatory and destabilizing measures. He added that it is necessary to encourage harmony and understanding among all nations.

BRIEFS

LIQUID FUEL PRICE INCREASE--The Energy Ministry last night decreed a 4-percent increase in the price of liquid fuels. This sudden increase does not affect aviation fuel, natural gas and fuel used at electric powerplants. [Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Mar 81 PY]

RAYO SAYS RELATIONS WITH COSTA RICA EXEMPLARY

PA142159 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Speech by President Aristides Royo at opening of the Chiriqui Fair--recorded]

[Text] I would like to tell the Panamanian people about some of the things President Carazo and I have discussed. While there are some problems still to be solved between some Latin American countries and still situations that are in the hands of arbiters from a third country, and while there are situations that are being handled by negotiators and some cases are out of the jurisdiction of some governments--such as the case of Belize and the Malvinas Islands--and while there are still some conflicts that have not been solved yet, I believe the fact that the presidents of Costa Rica and Panama met this afternoon to discuss a mutual supply of water, electricity, education and health services in the border area, and that we discussed the possibility of jointly processing the African palm that grows in Costa Rica and Panama, is a great example of peace for the continent to see.

We are also talking about a friendship park between Costa Rica and Panama. This park will be an area for the development and protection of our hydrographic basin. It will also be used for hydroelectric projects.

The fact that two sister nations such as Costa Rica and Panama talk about these matters in today's America should be seen as an example of brotherhood, good fellowship and solidarity that can be emulated by other nations that unfortunately have not been able to establish such relations yet.

We are saying this in the framework of an important international fair, such as this fair, because while it is true that work unites people, the exchange of products also unites people and creates a competitive spirit and a spirit of friendship and promotes the exchange of experiences.

Let us hope we will be able to solve the differences that still separate us and that we will be able to work together for common goals, such as the fight against misery, so that we may have a common front and so Latin America may have weight as an important region of the world.

Regarding the nation, I am pleased to announce that at the second cabinet meeting our government, abiding by the mandate of the National Legislation Council, has approved the bill that will replace Law 95 and this bill will be sent soon to the National Legislation Council.

Without going into details of Law 95, we can say that this bill has an important formula regarding the stability of workers. The formula is basically this: to give incentives to investors--and not to halt them--by establishing that tenure should not be of such a nature that would force businessmen to rehire a dismissed worker. In other words, this means the prevention of situations that would make good labor relations impossible, which is what promotes the development of an enterprise.

The bill has greater guarantees for the workers also. There should not be unjust dismissal of employees. Employers should dismiss a worker only when there is a justified reason for doing so. Otherwise he will have to pay indemnities, fines. All-embracing liberty to dismiss a worker is restricted by the bill.

FOREIGN MINISTER URGED TO PROTEST U.S. VIOLATIONS

PA130208 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 11 Mar 81 p 4-a

[Luis Restrepo Rosas column: "Dr Illueca: Let Us Use Our 'Loud Voice'"]

[Text] Our country has a "loud voice" which it does not use. The new foreign minister has been informed of a number of violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaties which deserved a diplomatic note of protest, but nothing has been done.

There is more much more:

Doctored lists of the employment of Panamanian workers have been printed. These lists try to show there is a substantial increase in the percentage of Panamanians employed.

However, I was told by persons who know the real situation that most of these employees are students in training programs and so-called "line" employees without importance and below level 6. However, when it is a matter of advancing beyond level 6, Panamanians have a hard time obtaining jobs with better salaries because conditions have been set that make it very difficult for Panamanians to qualify. In some cases applicants are required to have classification documents issued in the United States.

It has also been revealed that Local 900 of the Panama Canal Commission Workers is considering the presentation of a suit in Panamanian courts against the commission because of the application of Title 7. However, the Labor Ministry, which should be alert to these problems, has not acknowledged the situation.

The Panamanian labor leaders in the Canal area, Anderson, Mauge and Sinclair, have been going from pillar to post, presenting protests, demanding protection, making statements in newspapers and requesting meetings with the respective government officials, but to no avail.

The so-called security positions have been increased, rather than decreased, with a growing preference for U.S. citizens, and no valid reply has been made to the Panamanian workers' protests over these violations of the treaty.

In view of all this, we arrive at a single conclusion: We must develop a strategy, as good if not better, than the one which led the country to a new treaty.

If we do not return to this strategy, things will get worse, since the acceptance of the unilateral interpretations by the other side turns them into law. We have the bitter experience of the almost century-long Hay-Bunau Varilla treaty odyssey. Let us fight to emerge from this morass. However, due to negligence or who knows what other reasons, we are again entering into a new morass which promises to be thicker and more evil-smelling than the last one.

For example, how can we explain what happened with the Blackhawk IV "operation?"

Only the National Guard issued a communique on the matter. The invaders advanced, occupied the national territory without requesting permission, committed all sorts of abuses and...no comments from anyone. The people continue to wonder if it is true that there are secret clauses allowing the other side to commit abuses? And why has the "loud voice" gone silent?

Our new foreign minister has a background of waging people's and revolutionary struggles. The Panamanian people hope that his leadership will recharge the Foreign Ministry and establish efficient strategies to struggle against an enemy who is persistent in his attacks, dominating, and absolutely opposed to the rights of weak people. Perhaps a couple of shouts from the "loud voice" will make him think things over.

BELIZEPRICE RETURNS FROM LONDON, HAILS SETTLEMENT

FL141403 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Excerpts] The honorable premier and minister of finance today returned to Belize from the Anglo-Guatemalan talks on [words indistinct]. A delegation headed by the Honorable C.L.B. Rogers, deputy premier and minister of home affairs, was on hand at the Belize International Airport to welcome the returning delegation. With a report on the event, here is (Hipolito Bautista):

The Taca airliner which brought the delegation home touched down at the Belize International Airport shortly after 4 o'clock this afternoon. The premier was the first to emerge from the plane amid cheers from the greeting crowd. He was met at the airport by the deputy premier and other ministers of his Cabinet as well as a huge crowd of Belizeans, including the mayor of Belize City and city councilors.

The U.S. consul general, Mr Malcolm Barnebe, was on hand to greet the Premier and his delegation. With a firm handshake, he told the premier: We are your friends. And turning to the minister of health, Assad Shoman, he expressed his greetings and congratulations. A third member of the delegation, the Honorable V.A. Courtenay, who had returned earlier, was also there.

Deputy Premier the Honorable C.L.B. Rogers in welcoming the Belizean leader said he is confident that the London negotiations have been in the best interests of the Belizean people.

[Begin Rogers recording] Premier, honorable members of the delegations and honorable ministers present here, members of the Belize City Council, distinguished guests and our fellow Belizeans: Today we come out here at this hour, mid-afternoon with a hot noon day sun on a Friday, and in the thousands, to welcome back this delegation who went to London.

Mr Premier, when you went to these talks you asked that the Belizean people pray hard for a solution. All of us are here because our prayers have been answered. The ideal was to have Belize proceed to independence through a peaceful and a negotiated settlement. Our delegation, which took our [word indistinct] with them when they went to London, has done just that. And we know that the way is clear for Belize to move to a safe and secure independence. [cheers and applause]

Mr Premier, I know that traveling over the Atlantic by these big jets is a joyless experience. I [words indistinct] you must and that you want to get in, and so, with those few words I want to tell you how sincerely we welcome you back, we know that the work will have to go on, that there is much work ahead of us. And so we would like to welcome you and to tell you that the people of this country, in the great majority, are confident that the agreement reached is in the best interest of our Belizean people. May we welcome you. Thank you very much. [end recording]

[Begin Price recording] It was not an easy time in London, but we were strengthened with the help of the minister of government in the premier's office and the minister of health who stood firm with us. We met the Guatemalans. We negotiated with them. We met the British under Lord Carrington and we made known to them our views.

As the deputy premier has said to you so rightly, what we have achieved is a beginning of a settlement.

We have laid the basis of conditions for a future settlement, and in laying that basis, we have maintained our traditional stand, so expressed in the resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, (?particular) to sovereignty and territorial integrity. [cheers, applause] We have maintained that.

We have agreed that the texts of the various agreements we have reached (?will be) released on Monday. We are meeting in cabinet at 9 o'clock Monday morning, and from there on, we have a lot of work to do and we are depending on your support. But as the deputy premier has said, this opens the way, clears the way so we can get on with the constitution of the country which will be announced on Monday too, and so, we are nearing the goal we have prayed for these 31 years of the people's constructive [words indistinct]. We are nearing our goal. We have maintained our stated principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, and in reaching the final settlement, we depend on you. We want to be an independent, sovereign state of Central America and the Caribbean area, and again we extend the hand of friendship to our neighbors, all of them, because we have to live with them in the future and work together to develop the region.

We thank you for this welcome. We thank you for your prayers. We are going to need your help, especially in the months ahead, so that at last Belize can reach its just objectives and we emerge as a sovereign independent nation of Central America and the Caribbean area [word indistinct] with all our territory intact. Thank you very much.

[(cheers, applause) (end recording)]

FORDE OF BARBADOS ARRIVES FOR CARICOM MEETING

FL162345 Bridgetown CANA in English 2334 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Bemopan, Belize, 16 Mar (CANA)--Foreign Ministers of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) will meet here tomorrow to discuss a recent tripartite agreement which has apparently cleared the way for this country's political independence.

Among the first ministers here was Henry Forde of Barbados who has been chairman of a commonwealth committee on Belize, and whose government has been in the vanguard of those agitating for an agreement that compels no cession of Belizean territory.

Tomorrow's emergency meeting of the CARICOM standing committee of foreign ministers was called at the suggestion of Premier Price.

Mr Forde has said the meeting will consider how CARICOM could help ensure the colony's speedy progress to safe and secure independence.

"We shall be looking at the agreement reached between the two countries to see if the whole of Belize is intact," said the Barbadian minister, who is accompanied by his permanent secretary Brazane Babb.

Guyana has said it will be represented by Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson, accompanied by Permanent Representative at the United Nations Noel Sinclair.

The CARICOM Secretariat in Georgetown said that nine of the member countries had indicated they would attend the 2-day extraordinary meeting, at which the Belizean issue is the only agenda item.

COSTA RICAU.S. WARSHIPS ISSUE CONTINUES TO STIR CONTROVERSY

Permission Given To Make Port

PA170337 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0138 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] San Jose, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Costa Rican national assembly today overwhelmingly approved (50 votes to 3) to give permission to U.S. warships and planes to visit Limon, on the Atlantic coast of Costa Rica.

This permission caused a small political crisis over the weekend because for several days three leftist deputies managed to block the 54 democratic deputies who were willing to grant the permission which the constitution demands for the entry and docking of foreign ships.

A spokesman for the communist bloc of deputies described the voting as "a trampling under pressure of the sectors most obedient to U.S. imperialism" and said it would ask for a review of today's action.

The spokesmen of the parties that supported the permission--the opposition National Liberation Party and the government's Unity Party--said that the decision was adopted based on the constitution and the purposes of the visit of the warships: to strengthen the existing relations between Costa Rica and the United States and to promote the bonds between cities of both countries.

Communist Deputies Criticized

PA161541 San Jose Radic Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Several democratic deputies have said that the attitude of the communist deputies, who delayed approval and prevented the U.S. ships from visiting our country, has resulted in a loss of votes for those deputies, because we Costa Ricans are friends of the United States and we repudiate the deputies' attitude. Undoubtedly many followers of the People United coalition will demand an explanation from those deputies as their attitude has been contrary to the traditions of the Costa Ricans, the same sources added.

USSR Accused of Intervention

PA162227 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Evidently President Carazo has not handled the issue of the permit for the U.S. ships well. If the U.S. Embassy had requested the authorization many days ago, there is no reason why it should have been delayed so long or sent so late to the Legislative Assembly. Besides, in the past the executive had allowed the entry of this type of ship and plane without having to ask the legislative branch to issue a permit, which is a mere formality. Evidently, the constitutional permit has traditionally been given without previous study permits are also traditionally granted (?by) the deputies.

There are two problems in the ships issue. One is the attitude of the executive and the other is the tolerance of the legislature. The executive is handling its affairs very poorly, without any authority, without any knowledge of the law, and always in a regrettable manner.

If the executive did not want the ships to visit, then why didn't it tell the embassy beforehand? Why did it grant a permit it was not allowed to grant? Apparently someone is playing into the hands of the communists to set up a big show. The Council of Government is a mockery which nobody believes. If this were true, the ministers would have been forced to resign.

The government party is acting very strangely in this issue of the ships. Everything seems to indicate that someone is handing it to the communists on a silver platter so they will press on with the scandal and enable the three communists to show their ability to impose their ideas and thereby promote--against the will of the majority of the people-- a scandal and their pro-Soviet ideas. It is about time someone told the truth about this international issue of great repercussions. The issue of the ships is handled and promoted like a national scandal, and it definitely points to Soviet intervention in the domestic affairs of Costa Rica.

NICARAGUAN ENVOY COMMENTS ON BILATERAL CONCERNS

Fishing Dispute

PA131523 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Javier Chamorro Mora, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, will return to Managua today. He was the head of the diplomatic delegation in our country for 1 year. He is returning to Nicaragua from where he will go to New York to assume the post of permanent Nicaraguan representative to the United Nations.

Chamorro Mora thanked the media for their valuable cooperation.

Regarding the protest that the Costa Rican Government filed for the arrest of three fishermen near Cuajiliquil, the Nicaraguan Government affirmed that they were captured in Nicaraguan territorial waters. The fishermen were captured in a place called Los Mojones, 2 km off the coast and the nets were found 5 km north of there, the Nicaraguan Government replay said. This note said that the Nicaraguan laws empower the authorities to seize all fishing equipment and boats caught without a fishing license. However, the fishermen and most of their equipment were released.

The return of the nets was not made as a [word indistinct] because the Nicaraguan maritime authorities claim that these incidents have occurred before and the Nicaraguan fishermen are pressuring so that a final solution is found for this situation.

'Somozist' Attack

PA131628 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Javier Chamorro Mora, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, denounced a counter-revolutionary attack yesterday afternoon, charging that Somozist elements hurled a percussion grenade at the Nicaraguan diplomatic residence. Although the grenade did not explode, the Nicaraguan ambassador noted, it could have damaged property or injured people. He blamed this attack on the deficient vigilance at that diplomatic mission.

I am sure that this is one of numerous incidents which will continue to occur in Costa Rica. They are being fomented by individuals linked to the former national guard who are living in Costa Rica.

According to a note that the Nicaraguan ambassador sent to Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, these Somozists residing in Costa Rica are not only interested in hurting Nicaragua with these actions but want to get back at Costa Rica for its support during our war of liberation.

In reply to a note of protest that the Costa Rican Government presented to Nicaragua for the arrest of two civil guards in the border area on 22 February, the Nicaraguan Government apologized. The reply noted that the two civil guards were arrested and taken to Cardenas by mistake because of the lack of boundary stones on the border. However, the reply added, they were subsequently released and taken to their places of origin. The Nicaraguan Government promised that these kind of isolated incidents will not occur again in order to safeguard the good relations between the two governments and peoples.

'LOST' U.S. HELICOPTER RECOVERED NEAR RIVER

PA161956 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] A U.S. helicopter that was reported lost has been found in our territory. Last Saturday, at about 1500, the Civil Aviation Department of Costa Rica received a report from the Panama Canal Zone to the effect that a U.S. helicopter had been lost while flying over Costa Rican territory.

Our authorities immediately organized a search carried out by various planes flying over the route of the helicopter in question. Capt Eduardo Bolanos, a search and rescue expert from the Civil Aviation Department, established a plan of action through various areas and at different altitudes until the helicopter was found on the shore of the Parrita River.

Captains Eduardo Bolanos and Reinaldo Vargas, both from the Civil Aviation Department, were the ones who found the helicopter on the Parrita shore, 24 hours after the alert was issued.

Later, our authorities learned that the helicopter had made an emergency landing due to an electrical failure. Minor repairs were done on the spot, and the helicopter was able to fly again. The helicopter is now at Las Pabas Airport for a thorough inspection before it leaves for the United States. The helicopter pilot is Captain (Ellis Blake).

EL SALVADOR

AFP REPORTS 'WAR OF ATTRITION' FAR FROM OVER

PA170240 Paris AFP in English 0125 GMT 17 Mar 81

[By Oscar Martinez]

[Text] Chalatenango, El Salvador, Mar 16 (AFP)--A recent tour of parts of northern and eastern El Salvador by this correspondent showed that official Salvadoran claims that leftist guerrillas have "lost everything: arms, men and popular support, [words indistinct]."

Fierce rebel attacks and official warnings to avoid certain extended areas seem to confirm that the virtual civil war here is far from over.

In Chalatenango, 78 kilometers (about 50 miles) north of San Salvador, the commander of an army unit maintained that nothing was happening here, that all was quiet.

But two km (?further) away, a bridge over the main road had just been dynamited and the road [words indistinct] hazardous. The official version is that there are only small isolated groups of guerrillas dispersed through the area and that they attack only to plunder or rob.

The people here say that every night the guerrillas slip into town, and fighting is often intense. At times, they say, the leftist fighters even attack in broad daylight.

The army commander said there had been no casualties because there was no fighting. But as he said that, a small motor-van was seen nearby carrying a soldier who was either wounded or dead.

The army officer, who refused to give his name or allow himself to be photographed, admitted that farther north, almost on the Honduran border, the situation was worse. He said, small towns (such as) El Carrizal, Ojos de Agua, La Laguna and Arcatao, were the scenes of heavy fighting, and the military was hampered by a lack of helicopters to operate in the rugged area.

When we told the officer we planned to go to the "hot zone" near Arcatao, he attempted to dissuade us. He said the area was dangerous, not just because of the presence of insurgents, but also because it was mined and booby-trapped with pits containing poisonous stakes in the style used by Vietnamese guerrillas.

We took a different route, heading more toward the north to Tejutla, where we found no soldiers but did encounter national guards. The guards, too, said that everything was quiet.

Three km (two miles) before Tejutla was a vast area of abandoned houses. Their former residents, a guard representative said, were "leftist militants who fled to live in the mountains, but not to join the guerrilla." He also said that there were isolated groups who would attack and rob travelers on the main roads.

Civilians here said the guerrillas were very near, and that it was dangerous to travel much beyond the edge of town. "Much beyond" is La Palma, San Ignacio and Citala, and in each of those towns the guards confirmed that guerrillas had been active.

The war of attrition appeared to be at its height. The rebels, according to all indications, were making calculated strikes; generally hitting at several locations simultaneously, far from concentrations of soldiers, then fading back into the countryside before security forces arrive.

Near the Guazapa Volcano, surrounded for the past 10 days by army troops, the guerrillas are said to have given no ground and to be effectively counter-attacking.

A rebel group on Saturday dared to show itself and all its arms, allowing newsmen's automobiles to pass before ambushing a military convoy.

It is difficult to determine the number of guerrilla fighters now active, and the type of arms they are using. Various estimates put their strength at between 4,000 and 12,000.

Salvadoran Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia said recently that "the guerrillas have lost everything: arms, men and popular support."

But at a distance, the hazy smoke of combat can be seen hanging over the Guazapa Volcano. The 50 guerrillas who showed themselves to newsmen on the roadside appeared well-armed. And in talks with civilians in various towns, we noted no marked anti-guerrilla sentiment.

VIOLENCE CONTINUES, DEATH TOLL MOUNTS

Clashes Reported

PA161953 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Serious clashes occurred this past weekend between the guerrilla forces and the troops of the military-Christian Democratic junta in Suchitoto and Guazapa, where the offensive launched 9 days ago by the regime has failed.

According to a military spokesman, the vast antiguerrilla operation in the Guazapa-Suchitoto area will last 2 weeks longer than expected.

Violent fighting was also reported this past weekend in Morazan Department, especially near the Honduran border. The clashes in El Rodeo were particularly violent as 300 national guardsmen and special troops led by U.S. military advisers unsuccessfully tried to wipe out the positions held by members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

Bodies Recovered 16 Mar

PA170207 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador--Judicial authorities today found 22 bodies in various parts of the capital, the result of last night's violence. Ten of the bodies were headless, most of them in the area known as La Chacra. Two of the bodies examined were identified as national policemen executed by Farabundo Marti front guerrillas.

In Apopa, several young women dragged from their homes last night during curfew hours by unidentified individuals were found this morning with their skulls bashed in.

In Soyapango, 3 km from downtown San Salvador, three young men were knifed to death and, according to the local residents, parts of their bodies were strewn about.

Two bombs also went off in different parts of the city.

While fighting between the guerrilla forces and the Salvadoran Army continued today in Suchitoto and Morazan, it was learned that Col Adolfo Majano, a former member of the Salvadoran Government junta, is under arrest at the national police headquarters in San Salvador.

Fighting in Suchitoto, 44 km north of the capital, and in northern Morazan Department, 178 km from San Salvador, has already lasted 1 week, since the armed forces announced that it would carry out a military operation in the area to dismantle guerrilla camps. No information is available yet on last week's casualties among either the armed forces or the guerrillas.

It has also been learned that Majano has been detained in the capital's national police headquarters since 6 February. On several occasions both the defense minister and the other members of the government junta had been asked about Majano's whereabouts, but either their responses had been vague or they had answered that it was a military secret.

CCE HEAD: MARXISTS ALLOWED TO BE IN ELECTIONS

PA130438 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2131 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 12 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Marxist parties will be able to participate in the Salvadoran elections scheduled for March 1982, "as long as they abide by the rules of the democratic game," Jorge Bustamante, head of the Central Electoral Council [CCE], said during a news conference today.

Even though four of the six CCE members admitted to having political ties with the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), currently in power, they reiterated their intention to act honestly, independently and impartially.

"We will resign if the revolutionary governing junta or the armed forces pressure us in any way and we will clearly state the reasons for our resignation."

"Marxist parties will be able to participate in the elections as long as they accept the rules of the game," he repeated.

Right now, he said, there are five registered parties: the PDC, the National Conciliation Party, the Salvadoran Popular Party, the National Revolutionary Movement and the Nationalist Democratic Union.

"The basic objective of the CCE is to carry out a process of political democratization through elections," Bustamante, of no known political leanings or affiliation, stated.

Asked about why the Revolutionary Democratic Front is not represented on the council, he retorted: "You will have to ask the junta that. It picked us and it has the power to appoint the council members since the legislative assembly is not operating now."

Military's Duty To Vote

PA151615 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 13 Mar 81 pp 2, 12

[Excerpt] Dr Jorge Bustamante, president of the Central Electoral Council (CCE), said yesterday that the military has both the right and the obligation to participate in every electoral process, as is established in the political constitution.

The official was at a news conference that he and other CCE members were holding and he was answering a newsman who had asked his opinion about the announcement that the members of the armed forces will abstain from participating in the presidential elections that the revolutionary government junta wants to hold.

"I believe that is the personal opinion of the defense minister (Col Jose Guillermo Garcia)," Dr Bustamante added.

"The members of the military have the right to vote just like any other citizen, and they have the right to join political parties if they want to," the CCE president stressed.

However, according to military sources, it seems that no active military officers want to participate politically in the upcoming electoral campaign, not even to make use of their right to vote.

CCE Reorganization

PA140000 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 13 Mar 81 pp 3, 34

[Excerpts] In a news conference yesterday the members of the Central Electoral Council (CCE) said elections for members of a constituent assembly may be held in early 1982.

Jorge Bustamante, chairman of the council, said the next few months will see a true reorganization of the council, the drafting of a new electoral law that guarantees free election of authorities in this country, as well as a review of electoral lists. He noted that the council's computer will be reprogrammed because he is not satisfied with it as it "could already have the 1990 election results in it."

CCE CREATION, ELECTION PLANS ELICIT REACTIONS

Church's Praise, Caution

PA160004 Paris AFP in Spanish 2141 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Mar (AFP)--The Salvadoran church today commented favorably on the creation of a Central Electoral Council and the announcement about the forthcoming elections, but cautioned that this is not the first time this body has been set up "nor the first time encouraging promises have been made."

"Logically, many Salvadorans are not going to believe it. This is natural, because we all know the deceit and frustration with which our daily lives are filled," said Father Amilcar Torruella, who replaced Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas today in reading the homily.

However, Father Torruella pointed out that too much pessimism and mistrust will contribute nothing to the quest for a political solution to El Salvador's crisis. "We must be tenacious in the hope that someday we will really be able to decide the fate and the life of this nation through our vote," he added. "We must be demanding in our confidence," he explained, "that the persons responsible for this task--the government and electoral council--will see that the people are observing them and expect from them an attitude in line with the present circumstances."

Commenting on the present situation, Father Torruella affirmed that there are many signs "that shout the charge that this struggle was dehumanized at birth and is growing more dehumanized."

He said that both in number and form, the deaths that occur daily off the battlefields "are enough to fill us with shame and horror."

"The low moral quality of many Salvadorans engaged in this struggle is revealing," he stressed.

On rumors of an eventual coup d'etat allegedly sponsored by the extreme right, Torruella said that apparently "the incredible is probable," adding that despite the dark experiences the nation has not yet overcome, there are men in El Salvador with erroneous political standards and little love for the fatherland. A proper evaluation of history, he said, will reveal that the sorrow today afflicting the Salvadoran people "is the fault of those who did not want to think of the past with more generosity, of the rights and needs of the people."

Torruella added that "that selfish and unjust right" cannot be entrusted again "with the fate of the nation." He repeated the opinion of former Secretary of State Edmund Muskie to the effect that U.S. support for the present Salvadoran regime should not be interpreted as approval of an eventual seizure of power by the rightist sector. On the same issue, he concluded that there are Salvadorans "so politically deceived" that they think it is possible to erase laws and turn back the process of social changes already begun, although admittedly with imperfections.

Concluding, Father Torruella explained that Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, apostolic administrator of the San Salvador Archbishopric, departed for Chile yesterday to participate in the Latin American bishops' conference. From there, he will depart on a pastoral [word indistinct] trip to Rome and Germany.

He said, however, that before leaving, Monsignor Rivera y Damas had left precise instructions for the commemoration on 24 March of the first anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, an announcement which drew spontaneous applause from the faithful.

EL MUNDO's Reservations

PA151855 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 13 Mar 81 p 6

[Editorial: "Announcement of Free Elections"]

[Excerpts] A new announcement of free elections is hovering over the convulsed national political scene. But according to observers of sufficient age and wisdom to voice opinions, this new promise might turn out to be another of the big failures suffered by our people through the decades.

As on previous occasions, the observers note, there is talk about the honesty of the next elections. However, it is being affirmed that this is the first time this will be done "in 50 years." This amounts to saying that none of the elections held during the past 50 years has been either honest, free, or democratic.

The pages of this paper await the comments that interested parties may wish to make concerning the fact that such a serious accusation has been made against so many former members of the electoral body.

GUATEMALA

AFP REPORTS TEXT OF UK-Guatemalan ACCORD ON BELIZE

PA161839 Paris AFP in Spanish 1747 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Mar (AFP)--The Guatemalan Government released here today the "bases of understanding between Guatemala and Great Britain on the situation of Belize" which should culminate with the independence of that territory that has been disputed by the two countries for more than 100 years.

The 16-point agreement was signed in London on 11 March. The points include some "concessions" by the British Government to Guatemala although none of them refer to a portion of land that the Guatemalan Government had previously demanded.

The text of the agreement released here today by the Guatemalan Government states:

1. Guatemala and the United Kingdom will recognize the independent state of Belize as an integral part of Central America and will respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity in accordance with the existing and traditional borders, subject, in the case of Guatemala, to the concluding of a treaty or treaties that might be necessary to apply these bases of understanding.
2. Guatemala will be granted those territorial waters that will assure it permanent access and without obstacle to the high seas, along with rights over the adjacent seabed.
3. Guatemala will have use and benefit of the Ranguana and Zapotillo Keys and rights in those sea areas adjacent to the keys as agreed upon.
4. Guatemala will have the right to free port facilities in Belize City and Punta Gorda.
5. The highway between Belize City and the Guatemalan border will be improved and the highway between Punta Gorda and the Guatemalan border will be completed. Guatemala will have freedom of transit on these highways.
6. Belize will facilitate the construction of pipelines between Guatemala and Belize City, Dangringa and Punta Gorda.
7. In areas to be agreed upon, an agreement will be reached between Guatemala and Belize for purposes relating to the control of contamination, navigation and fishing.
8. Seabed areas and the continental shelf for the joint exploration and exploitation of minerals and hydrocarbons will be agreed upon.
9. Guatemala and Belize will agree on certain development projects for mutual benefit.

10. Belize will have the right to any free zone facilities of Guatemala which correspond to similar facilities that Belize gives to Guatemala.
11. Guatemala and Belize will sign a cooperation agreement for matters of mutual security and neither will permit its territory to be used to support subversion against the other.
12. Except for what is foreseen in these bases of understanding, nothing which is expressed in these provisions will be to the detriment of any right or interest of Belize of the Belizean people.
13. Guatemala and the United Kingdom will enter into agreements in order to establish full and normal relations between them.
14. Guatemala and the United Kingdom will take the necessary actions to promote Belize's entry into the United Nations, the OAS, the Central American organizations and other international organizations.
15. A joint commission among Guatemala, the United Kingdom and Belize will be established in order to implement the foregoing provisions. This commission will draft a treaty or treaties to be signed by the signatories of the present bases of understanding.
16. Consequently, the controversy between Guatemala and the United Kingdom over Belize will be honorably and finally ended.

This agreement, whose text was delivered to the Guatemalan press by President Gen Romeo Lucas is being endorsed by the signatures of Nicholas Ridley, minister of state for the foreign and commonwealth offices; Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo and Belizean Prime Minister George Price.

President Pleased With Pact

PA161923 Paris AFP in Spanish 1759 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Mar (AFP)--Guatemalan President Gen Romeo Lucas today described as "an honorable and dignified formula for Guatemala" an agreement signed in London by his government with the UK concerning the independence of Belize.

Romeo Lucas said that during the negotiations his government always kept in mind "the interests of the Belizeans, but without ever acting behind the Guatemalan people's back."

President Lucas said he was going to submit the agreement to the consideration of the people; that it will be the people of Guatemala who will "ratify or rectify whatever decision my government makes."

The president recalled that the Guatemalan Constitution states that "the executive branch shall conduct all negotiations aimed at solving the situation in Belize in accordance with the national interests."

Therefore, he added, his government had maintained negotiations with the UK and Belize "for the purpose of finding an honorable solution to the problem."

General Lucas commented that "Guatemala participated in the negotiations with a patriotic spirit imbued with an authentic nationalism."

"The Government of Guatemala," he added, "considers it prudent to solve the Belize affair, which must be dealt with objectively and realistically."

He pointed out that the differences must be analyzed "in light of the world's present circumstances, aspiring for an end to colonialism and centers of tension, and for the rights of the peoples to freely decide their destiny."

President Lucas, who appeared totally satisfied with the agreement, affirmed that "the bases of the understanding basically seek a rapprochement between the Guatemalan and Belizean peoples."

Further, he said that his government's decisions were not influenced "in the least" by the resolutions approved by the OAS and the United Nations. Neither "was there any pressure on the part of other nations."

Finally, President Lucas stated that "during the negotiations we were dignified and capable, and the result we present is fundamentally based on the conviction that the agreement is the most appropriate for Guatemala, for Belize and their respective peoples."

Politicians Withhold Comment

PA161954 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] The secretary general of the Revolutionary Party, PR, Jorge Garcia Grandados, has sent a message of congratulations to the president of the republic for having solved a century-old problem such as that of Belize which caused concern to the Guatemalan people for over 150 years.

Other politicians have remained silent, explaining that they prefer to wait for the text of the negotiations before voicing their opinion.

The leaders of the National Liberation Movement, MLN, and the National Renewal Party, PRN, both presidential candidates, noted that it would be appropriate to conduct a popular poll to learn what the people really want. In cases such as these, it is necessary to inform the Guatemalans about all negotiations that may have led to a final solution.

The Christian Democrats; the Democratic Institutional Party, PID; the United Revolutionary Front, FUR, and the Authentic Nationalist Central, CAN, will wait for the release of the official document before stating their position.

It is expected that after the government announcement this morning on the solution ending the Belize problem, the most prominent political leaders of the country will voice their opinion. Most political sectors support Guatemala's recovery of Belize.

RETALHULEU RALLY SUPPORTS LUCAS GARCIA REGIME

PA161844 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Some 100,000 residents of the Departments of San Marcos, Suchitepeque, Quezaltenango, Solola and Totonicapan yesterday staged a mass rally in support of the government of Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia. At the same time they attempted to disrupt subversive activities in the country, which are causing serious damage to the country, according to rally speakers.

According to reports from the area, the rally speakers spoke for 2 hours, openly supporting the government and giving details of subversive activities. The speakers noted the necessity of the residents' need to maintain a firm attitude and exhorted the residents never to support the subversive groups.

The rally participants marched from Las Palmas Avenue to the central plaza of Retalhuleu, in the department of the same name.

ARMY SAYS SUBVERSIVE GROUPS 'UNDER CONTROL'

PA160258 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 7 Mar 81 p 6

[Text] Maj Hector Arnoldo Mendez Prera, deputy chief of the armed forces public relations office, said yesterday that in spite of the fact that the subversive groups have joined forces to increase terrorist activities, they are completely under control and will be eliminated by the army.

The major was referring to the threat that exists against Guatemala which was made public over radio and television by President Lucas Garcia's government.

He said the subversive groups can join forces but will never achieve their objectives because they do not have the support of the people.

The Guatemalan people are aware that violence is not the way to solve the problems we face, he said. On many occasions the Guatemalan people have expressed their unrestricted support for the national army and they respect the legally elected government.

Major Mendez Prera said the guerrillas have in fact stepped up their actions somewhat in remote parts of the country. Nevertheless, it can be affirmed that these minority groups are completely under control since the army has the capacity to wipe them out, he added.

The armed forces spokesman added that subversion will be eliminated in the near future because these groups have been rejected by the people. The people detest them due to the terrorist actions they have perpetrated against Guatemalan families and the whole country.

TROOPS, GUERRILLAS CLASH THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PA131354 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2325 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 12 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Detectives of the Guatemalan police clashed today with members of a guerrilla cell.

The local police reported this morning that a detective unit patrol came into contact with the guerrillas in an outlying district in the western part of Guatemala City. When the guerrillas, apparently members of the People's Guerrilla Army (EGP), realized they had been discovered, they opened fire on the police patrol.

The police also revealed that a military convoy was ambushed in a distant highway in Quezaltenango Province, some 225 km west of the capital. Guerrillas of the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization (ORPA) claimed responsibility for the attack which caused material damage only.

Finally in Zaragoza, in the western part of Chimaltenango Province 64 km from this capital, another military convoy was ambushed. ORPA guerrillas threw a bomb which killed a soldier and wounded four others, Defense Ministry authorities reported.

EGP CLAIMS CREDIT FOR DOCTOR'S KIDNAPPING

PA132255 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] The self-styled People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] has issued a communique claiming credit for the kidnapping of Dr Bayardo Alvarez Ruiz, brother of the government minister. The EGP has noted that the physician is in perfect health.

GUATEMALAN INTERPOL OPERATIONS CHIEF SHOT TO DEATH

PA151737 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1629 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 15 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The local police reported today that Jose Chaves Valenzuela, chief of operations of the Interpol office in Guatemala, was shot to death.

Chaves Valenzuela, a Guatemalan, was riding in his vehicle when he was attacked by the occupants of an automobile in an isolated area in southern Guatemala City.

According to the authorities investigating this incident, Chaves Valenzuela died instantly and his car had 45 bullet holes.

PROGRAM RESUMES FOLLOWING ATTACK ON DIRECTOR

PA141537 Paris AFP in Spanish 1634 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Mar (AFP)--An armed attack on his home "by leftist guerrillas" was denounced here today by Mario Garcia, director of "Here Is the World," a television newscast.

Garcia also said that the newscast did not appear for several days last week because of the threats made against it by those same groups.

"It all started when a member of the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization (ORPA), a guerrilla organization was captured after giving a press communique to the "Here Is the World" newscast, Garcia explained.

"He was captured," Garcia said, "when the military police guarding the station saw a man throwing an envelope containing ORPA communique."

In retribution for the arrest of their courier, the guerrillas attacked my home with grenades, bombs and a submachinegun on 5 March. Miraculously my wife, my four children and I were unhurt," Garcia said.

He later received more threats and decided to temporarily suspend the transmission of the newscast so that he could take his family to the United States for security reasons.

However, last night, the "Here Is the World" newscast was back on the air and Garcia, who favors private enterprise and is opposed to communism, said that "he will not suspend the newscast anymore regardless of the threats he receives."

HONDURASU.S. ENVOY'S STATEMENT ON ELECTION DRAWS REACTION

PA170253 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Papers in San Pedro Sula published remarks by U.S. Ambassador Jack Binns which have drawn widespread comment by private sectors. The portion of Ambassador Binns' remarks that caused the most comment was his comment that the United States would support whatever government is elected democratically, even if the Honduran people decide to elect a Cantinflas.

This statement has caused the most varied comment, some favorable, others very acrid over a lack of tact shown by Ambassador Binns. Some say that apparently Ambassador Binns was thinking about some Honduran politicians who talk too much and do not say anything when he referred to Cantinflas.

Others consider that he showed a lack of respect for the four presidential candidates nominated by the Liberal Party, the National Party, the National Innovation and Unity Party and the Christian Democratic Party. They wonder what candidate in particular Ambassador Binns was referring to as a Cantinflas? Or was it just a poorly used metaphor?

So far no public comment has been made regarding Ambassador Binns' statements, even if privately the most varied comments are already circulating.

NICARAGUA ACCUSED OF REINSTATING 'MAGNIFICAT'

PA132358 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Moises de Jesus Ulloa Duarte Commentary]

[Excerpts] No matter how much the Marxist-Sandinist regime of Nicaragua tries to convince the people of that sister nation that things are different now after the fall of Somoza and that the new government of the commanders is seeking an era of freedom, its actions contradict this.

It is said that in Somoza's time any citizen who did not carry a membership card of the Conservative-Liberal Party, which was the party to which the ruler and his aides belonged, was more or less Godforsaken. That card seemed to have miraculous powers: It opened doors that were closed to common mortals; it won jobs and favors. In sum, it was absolutely necessary in order to achieve anything that the Nicaraguans--with that acute sense of humor that is so characteristic of them and which not even the sadistic communists will be able to take from them--called the blessed card "the magnificat"--a well-known prayer used by loyal Christians to beg favors of the Virgin Mary.

Now perhaps because of their heretical talk of Christian Marxism the Sandino-Communists have their own magnificat, without which the Nicaraguans might as well be buried alive, because if they do not have it in their possession they cannot even get water.

But let us repeat a story published by LA PRENSA of Managua so we may see the nature of the new magnificat under the new Nicaraguan regime:

Although in October of last year the government forbade its agencies to require that citizens present letters from the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS]--which are similar to the neighborhood committees in communist Cuba and are in charge of uncovering any activities against the government--in order to pursue legal activities in government offices, the CDS have not given up and again are seeking to divide the Nicaraguan population into active members of the CDS and others who have only a card identifying them as inhabitants.

The former will be able to obtain a paying position with greater ease in order to have economic stability. The latter are to be classed as persons who do not attend anything--meaning no government demonstrations--and are probably not supporters of the revolutionary process. This is proof of another attempt by the so-called mass organizations to impose a new magnificat so some Nicaraguans may have economic stability while others, identified as mere inhabitants, are suspected of voicing unfavorable opinions about the mass organizations.

This is one of the smaller monstrosities that are being committed against the Nicaraguan people by the Sandino-Marxist regime--that of dividing the citizens into classes distinguished by the privileges they enjoy for the mere fact of being supporters of the communist government, of being indifferent, or being frankly opposed to it.

HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR SIGN ACCORD ON TRADE TREATY

PA141308 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Agreement between Honduran and Salvadoran foreign and economy ministers on future bilateral commerce treaty, signed in Tegucigalpa, 12 March 1981; read by Ramon Medina Luna, Honduran deputy economy minister for integration affairs and foreign trade--recorded]

[Text] Whereas:

Title 15, Article 41 of the general peace treaty between the Republics of El Salvador and Honduras establishes that both governments will regulate their commercial relations through a bilateral commerce treaty, for which both parties will appoint, within a period of 3 months, the delegates to the committee in charge of outlining the corresponding bilateral commerce treaty;

Therefore,

On the basis of Article 41 of the general peace treaty between the Republics of El Salvador and Honduras, we agree:

1. To appoint the delegates that will make up the committee in charge of drawing up the draft of a bilateral trade treaty between the Republics of Honduras and El Salvador as follows:

For the Republic of El Salvador:

A. Government committee: deputy minister of economy, deputy minister of foreign relations, director of international economy and director of economic transaction.

B. Negotiating technical committee: a representative of the Central Reserve Bank; a representative of the Ministry of Economy; a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Relations; a representative of agriculture and livestock; a representative of the Salvadoran Association of Industrialists; a representative of the Chamber of Commerce and a representative National Association of the Small Industry.

For the Republic of Honduras:

A. Government committee: deputy minister of economy in charge of integration affairs and foreign trade; deputy minister of foreign relations; general director of the Central American economic integration and an adviser of the Ministry of Economy.

B. Negotiating technical committee: general director of central american economic integration; a representative of the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit; representatives of the Ministries of Communications, Public Works and Transport; a representative of the Central Bank of Honduras; a representative of the National Association of Industrialists; a representative of the National [word indistinct] of Energy and Small Industry; a representative of the Honduran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and [word indistinct] and a transporters representative.

2. That the committee, in drawing up the draft of the bilateral commerce treaty take into account, among other things, matters dealing with customs and other matters not connected with customs as well as conditions for the payment of the transportation costs of the merchandise to be exchanged between the Republics of El Salvador and Honduras.

3. The committee is exhorted to submit, no later than 30 April 1981, to the ministers of foreign relations and economy of El Salvador and Honduras the draft of the bilateral commerce treaty between Honduras and El Salvador.

The present agreement is signed in the city of Tegucigalpa on 12 March 1981.

[Signed] Fidel Chavez Mena, minister of foreign relations of El Salvador; Cesar Elvir Sierra, minister of foreign relations of Honduras; Ruben Mondragon C., minister of economy of Honduras; Oscar Raymundo Melgar, deputy minister of economy representing the minister of economy of El Salvador.

ODCA REPORTEDLY PRESSURING PDCH TO SUPPORT DUARTE

PA141431 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1925 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Christian Democratic Organization of the Americas (ODCA) is pressuring the directorate of the Christian Democratic Party of Honduras (PDCH) to retract its condemnation of the Salvadoran junta, Miguel Angel Ortiz said today.

Ortiz, a PDCH adviser, accused Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte and former Venezuelan Foreign Minister Aristides Calvani of being "the instruments of this coercion." Duarte is president of ODCA and Calvani is its secretary general.

"They have gotten most of the parties of the continent, with the exception of Uruguay, to join in the pressure on us to support the genocidal government of El Salvador," Ortiz said.

The Christian Democratic leader revealed that "Horacio Moavro, a special envoy of Duarte's, came to Tegucigalpa in February to try to convince the national directorate to invalidate a resolution condemning El Salvador that had been approved at the party's 10th national plenum."

"To honor Moavro's request would be to disregard a resolution of the rank and file. Last week that same rank and file prevented a Central American meeting in support for the Salvadoran Government, in which Duarte was to participate, from being held in Tegucigalpa," Ortiz said.

"The directorate," Ortiz said, "has resolved to submit the issue for the consideration of the next national plenum in May of this year, in order to arrive at a final resolution."

"We," he said, "maintain a firm position regarding the Salvadoran conflict. That country has no reason to be the backyard of any imperialists, not even of the Warsaw Pact, and the people must be the ones to decide their fate and their future."

"We believe that in El Salvador, a solution must be negotiated between the government and the Revolutionary Democratic Front and that since Duarte is an impediment to those negotiations and to peace he should resign. This is the opinion that ODCA finds displeasing," the Honduran leader said.

"Honduras and Uruguay are being subjected to these pressures because we are the only ones who are opposed to intervention in El Salvador. We are not seeking a break with ODCA, but we wish to make it very clear that we will not tolerate more pressure," he concluded.

GOVERNMENT DENIES DISCOVERY OF ARMS SHIPMENT

PA131943 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1555 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 13 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Government today denied reports that on Wednesday the army seized another shipment of weapons destined for El Salvador.

A government spokesman, who did not disclose his name, said that "you can be sure that more weapons have not been discovered. What is happening is that routine searches have been carried out on the roads due to security reasons."

The spokesman indicated that people let their imagination run away, and when they see a military operation that includes a through search of vehicles and people they can only think of arms shipments.

He explained that if any confiscation of weapons takes place the citizens will be immediately notified because it is not to the government's or army's advantage to cover up operations of this type, since Honduras is neutral in the domestic affairs of other peoples.

He added that the searches without extra considerations or favoritisms toward anyone will continue as long as the army deems them necessary.

In less than 1 month, the Honduran Army seized three shipments of automatic weapons and ammunition for heavy arms.

A group of 11 Salvadorans, 1 Costa Rican and 3 Hondurans was involved in that transshipment of weapons. They said they were a logistics cell of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front of El Salvador. The Salvadorans and the Costa Rican will be deported to Mexico or Panama whenever either of these two countries grants them asylum. The Hondurans have already been released.

SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS SET FIRE TO HONDURAN TRUCK

PA132245 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1500 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] It has been learned that a truck with Honduran plates which was traveling from San Pedro Sula, transporting bananas to the Republic of El Salvador, was set on fire yesterday morning by a group of guerrillas in Chalatenango Department, near the community of La Palma. The guerrillas stopped the Honduran truck and proceeded to set fire to it. The names of the owner and driver are not known, but it was learned from the immigration office in Ocotepeque that the truck was completely burned by the Salvadoran guerrillas.

GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC TEAM, BUSINESSMEN MEET

PA162012 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Mar 81 p 8

[Text] "The country is in a tough spot," Fernando Lardizabal Guilbert, president of the Honduran Private Enterprise Council [COHEP], replied when we asked him for his conclusions following a meeting with the government's economic team.

The private businessmen met on Saturday with members of the economic team to study the measures suggested in the economic emergency plan. Another meeting was held yesterday to try to reach an agreement between the private and public sectors concerning the approval of the new measures.

Lardizabal Guilbert said that Saturday's meeting "was more than anything else to inform us about the economic situation in general; that is, as the government's economic team sees it."

Lardizabal Guilbert then said that the businessmen are willing to cooperate with the government and that proof of this is that they have been the first ones to publicly say that the country is experiencing an economic crisis.

"Of course we are going to cooperate because we too are Honduran and we have a right to cooperate. The problem is that they don't want to take us into consideration," the COHEP president concluded.

NICARAGUA

ROBELLO CALLS REGIME 'COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP'

Honduran Radio Interview

PA170111 Tegucigalpa La Voz de honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Milton Mateo interview with Nicaraguan Democratic Movement leader Alfonso Robelo Callejas--live via telephone]

[Text] [Question] Engineer Robelo, how was the rally that the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] tried to hold in Nandaime?

[Answer] The peaceful civilian rally that the MDN had planned and had gotten authorization for in Nandaime could not be held because mobs headed by government elements blocked the roads and committed vandalism under the noses of the authorities. These mobs burned the MDN office in Chinandega and destroyed Radio Mi Preferida and Radio Amor in Managua, owned by Manuel Giron, and partially destroyed Radio Mundial, which belong to Manuel Arana. In addition the newspaper LA PRENSA was surrounded and threatened by mobs. This paper was unable to publish today and will not be printed tomorrow.

Therefore we can say that Nicaragua experienced a night of terror last night such as we hadn't seen in a long time. This reminds us of the nights of insurrection against the Somozist dictatorship, but in this case, under a new dictatorship here in Nicaragua.

[Question] Did the government give any explanation about this situation?

[Answer] No. They didn't have any. In acting in a senseless and irresponsible manner, they exposed the Nicaraguan people to a possible tragedy because there were dozens small mobs that blocked the roads, carrying stones, clubs and even weapons. They did this not only under the noses of the authorities but were encouraged by the Sandinist radio and television and the official organ, the former newspaper NOVEDADES, now called BARRICADA.

[Question] There were reports here in Tegucigalpa early today that people were injured and several persons arrested.

[Answer] Some people were beaten and slightly injured. Thank God it was nothing serious, and this can only be attributed to the great moderation and responsibility of the MDN members, who did not let themselves be provoked by these mobs of ordinary people who were being manipulated by the Sandinist leaders.

[Question] Was anybody arrested?

[Answer] Several were arrested, but at this time there is only one, a member of the MDN youth, who is being held in Nandaime. The rest of them were released (?at our request).

[Question] You had everything nearly ready for the rally.

[Answer] Everything was completely ready. We were expecting to hold a rally with approximately 60,000 persons, and to us this was a [words indistinct] an event held in any democratic country except in those countries which have fallen into a regime which shows clear signs of totalitarianism, such as the present case, and where pluralism is no longer in effect.

[Question] What will your next step be?

[Answer] We are making all the proper charges, and we have said we will double our efforts in the civic struggle to have Nicaragua advance on a third path, never to return to Somoism, but also not to fall into communism.

[Question] It was said that behind all this was the hand of certain well-known leaders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

[Answer] I can point specifically to Guerrilla Commander Leticia Herrera. She had been openly inciting sedition and violence over television. She was urging the Sandinist Defense Committees, which are the Sandinist cells, to attack the citizens who wanted to attend the Nandaime rally. I think it is important for the brother countries to know that the FSLN ordered this for two reasons: first because it cannot [word indistinct] democracy. The Sandinists, because they are totalitarian, do not dare confront democracy. Second because there is [words indistinct].

[Question] When did you realize the rally could not be held?

[Answer] When we saw that a night of terror was underway in various cities in the country. [Words indistinct] we tried to issue a communique, but probably the government forces which monitor the telephones cut both lines at my home where we were working and we could not issue the communique until midnight.

[Question] Do you think this is the eve of a difficult situation for your movement?

[Answer] I believe that, more than a difficult moment for the MDN, it shows that we are moving further to a totalitarian dictatorship, which is truly a difficult situation for all democratic Nicaraguans, who I feel are a majority, because at this time the FSLN can only be described as an armed minority claiming to have absolute power in Nicaragua.

[Question] What is the attitude of the Nicaraguan people regarding this situation?

[Answer] Of full support to the moderate and upright position assumed by our party and of disapproval of violence, of which we are tired and which occurred during the dark night Somoism and to which we do not want to return, and above all of disapproval of those who irresponsibly led a group of weak and naive persons into a confrontation between brothers.

[Question] Here in Tegucigalpa it has been rumored that the Cubans had something to do with preventing the MDN meeting. What about this?

[Answer] I have no proof of their participation, but the situation was similar to other cases in which Cubans have participated, for instance during the mass exodus of Cuban citizens through the port of Mariel. Therefore it is not too farfetched to think the Cubans had something to do with this case.

[Question] Could yesterday's incidents be considered the beginning of the end of democracy in Nicaragua?

[Answer] Although it is true that another door was closed to civic struggle, I wish to state here that I have hope in the reaction of the Nicaraguan people, who have great faith in democracy and who are devout Christians. Our determination to continue struggling should not be considered a lost case, even if we must admit that the field of action in Nicaragua is narrowing.

[Question] Would you like to add anything else?

[Answer] I just want to thank you for the opportunity you have given me to explain to the Honduran people and other sister countries the very sad things occurring in my country. After struggling to oust the Somozist dictatorship, we now are confronted with a communist dictatorship which is already showing its claws.

Costa Rican Interview

PA132247 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] In an interview broadcast by Radio Monumental of San Jose, Costa Rica, Alfonso Robelo, leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], said today that there are several similarities between the current situation in Nicaragua and that of Cuba. The Nicaraguan politician, who is in Costa Rica on business for several agroindustrial companies he manages, resigned from the Nicaraguan reconstruction government after 9 months in office over what he considers are deviations by the regime. However, he says he still believes in the revolution.

Robelo told Radio Monumental that he fought against Somoza, convinced that in Nicaragua there is a socioeconomic situation that demands deep changes. He noted that the similarities between Nicaragua and Cuba include the organization of the government and the Sandinista front. Robelo said the Nicaraguan Government has deviated from the objectives and goals of the revolution. He said Nicaragua is experiencing an almost absolute government by a party whose ideology is already defined. It exploits anti-U.S. feelings and is militarizing the country to the extent that there are more than 40,000 in the army, security and police forces besides 100,000 well-trained militiamen. This is 5 percent of the population. This is how the government's lack of popular support is replaced.

Robelo said in view of Nicaragua's economic situation, the government did not have to give the appearance of respecting political pluralism in order to receive financing from Western democracies.

ROBELO 'LIES', 'SLANDER' DRAW CRITICISM

PA141905 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] There is no doubt about it: Robelo is a traitor. Following the example of Jose Esteban Gonzalez, he commits slander and tells lies for foreign consumption. He defended imperialist interests in Nicaragua while he was in Europe, and now he has done it again.

AP, the transnational imperialist news agency, issued a dispatch to the world, datelined Thursday in Tegucigalpa, in which "Poncho" Robelo exhausts revolutionary patience.

We are informing our people of the content of a telephone interview from Robelo's luxurious office to Radio America in Tegucigalpa.

Robelo again climbed on his battle horse of Marxist-Leninist totalitarianism, accusing our vanguard of upholding that political ideology in order to remain in power. He said that we totalitarian Sandinists fear democrats because we are an armed minority in Nicaragua.

Robelo also said that the Nicaraguan Government identifies fully with the Salvadoran guerrillas, since they share the same ideology. This was a quote from the item.

Robelo added that this situation has placed Nicaragua in a position of international confrontation, which he described as foolhardy, since Nicaragua should not be seeking unity and national reconstruction--as if we were not doing this--instead of drowning in the hatred that has been sown, in his words, by the heirarchs of the Sandinist government.

In Costa Rica and Honduras, as we have just discovered, Robelo described our people as fascists and mobs. He said that Interior Minister Tomas Borge has initiated harassment, on the border with Honduras--the discovery of weapons, plots and a number of acts that have not really taken place in the country--solely to conceal a manifest fear of facing up to democracy.

The Nicaraguan people are now witnesses to the temerity of this successor to Somozist exploitation. He has forgotten the dozens of brothers from the militias and the army who have been killed by the bands of assassins in the north. He is also disregarding the crimes against dozens of peasants and, as if it were ancient history, has forgotten the sacrifice of our hard-working people, who gave 50,000 lives to the struggle for their liberation.

Sandino's people, not this newscast, will have the last word. Our people's patience has been exhausted.

'ORGANIZED PEOPLE,' NOT SANDINISTS, BLOCKED RALLY

PA170157 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GTMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] The politicians and the transnational news agencies are resorting to clumsy explanations, ambiguities and even lies to justify the shameful failure of reaction's plans on 15 March in Nandaime. They want to conceal the fact that neither the revolutionary government nor the Sandinist National Liberation Front can be blamed for this situation, because it was the organized people themselves who virtually took over neighborhoods, roads and towns to say "no" to provocation.

Let us analyze some of the explanations that the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] gentlemen have been giving to the transnational news agencies to be disseminated hastily throughout the world:

A report datelined 15 March says MDN official Alvaro Jerez announced that the Nandaime rally had been postponed until some future date and that a new date had not been set because the Sandinist Front has not instructed its organizations to act prudently. He also said midlevel Sandinist cadres earlier had been looking for trouble with MDN members. This is a clumsy statement by those who, without the Sandinist police's protection and the many appeals for peace made by the Sandinist leaders, perhaps at this time would not be telling their story. Their provocation elicited the just ire of the people, and this is what they are now trying to conceal abroad. The people's violence simply erupted.

MDN MEMBERS CARRY OUT 'NEW PROVOCATIONS'

PA161634 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] According to Gustavo Chamorro of the (Gwaspan) Sandinist Defense Committee, the (Gwaspan) and (Jose Dolores Estrada) neighborhoods located on the Northern Road, were harassed last night by armed elements, members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN]. According to Chamorro, the incident occurred at 2100, and local residents captured one of the harassers and turned him over to the Sandinist police.

POLICE BREAK UP DEMONSTRATION AT RADIO CORPORACION

PA170109 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2216 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A group of anti-Robelo people this afternoon gathered in front of Radio Corporacion here to stage a rally against the station. As the demonstrators gathered in front of the privately owned station, station employees asked police for protection. In case of any emergency, fire department and Red Cross units were also called.

Dozens of curious bystanders beefed up the crowd in Ciudad Jardin, where the station is located, very close to the ACAN-EFE offices. As the demonstration was getting underway, Miguel Urroz, deputy chief of the Managua police, showed up with police to protect the station. No major incident was reported during the demonstration.

A small group of demonstrators was still at the studio this afternoon, but police continued to provide protection to the station, which is critical of the Sandinist government.

Meanwhile, incidents were reported between students at the Baptist high school here and at the Rosendo Lopez Institute in Rivas in the southernmost part of the country. At both schools Sandinist students confronted sympathizers of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN), without any major consequences.

The MDN, led by Alfonso Robelo, who was a member of the government junta, is the party that yesterday called off an opposition rally in Nandaime, claiming lack of guarantees.

Station Receives Threats

PA170251 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] New threats are being made against Radio Corporacion: This station is receiving constant threats from unidentified persons who threaten to destroy this radio station. The unidentified voice says they will come and burn Radio Corporacion so it will not be able to go on the air. A call has been made to the military authorities to prevent any one carrying out of these threats, because destruction of this radio station would leave many persons without jobs and would hinder the reconstruction effort, since this concern helps economic reactivation.

LATEST U.S. STATEMENT ON ARMS TRAFFIC REJECTED

PA140311 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Station Commentary]

[Text] In spite of the emphatic statement issued yesterday by our Foreign Ministry regarding the repeated allusions by the State Department to a nonexistent weapons traffic to El Salvador through Nicaraguan territory, Alexander Haig's team has now made new accusations.

Reports received today say that spokesman William Dyess said that the State Department has evidence that the alleged arms traffic through Nicaragua and to El Salvador has decreased.

In view of the Foreign Ministry communique issued yesterday, we again insist that the Nicaraguan Government has never, in public or in private before any U.S. official, accepted responsibility of any kind regarding alleged arms traffic to El Salvador. Therefore the Nicaraguan Government has not committed itself to suspending this arms traffic because it has never existed.

The reassertion of these statements today reveals a purpose which Dyess himself discloses when he says the objective of U.S. military aid to El Salvador is to achieve a military balance between the government forces and the revolutionary guerrillas which, according to him, are being armed from abroad.

Evidently the need to continue supporting the Salvadoran military junta by any means has led the State Department to seek justifications for such an unpopular measure, which is rejected even by vast U.S. sectors. This need is apparently stronger than the official statement of the Nicaraguan Government, which rejects this malicious accusation.

TWO U.S. LEGISLATORS ARRIVE FOR BRIEF VISIT

PA131944 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Two U.S. senators [as heard; representatives] today began a quick visit to Nicaragua. David Bonior, Democrat from Michigan, and Robert Davis, Republican from Michigan, are the senators who have been in Managua since last night on a mission that has not been disclosed.

Nevertheless, sources close to the senators indicated that in the short time that Bonior and Davis will be here they will meet with government officials and representatives of private enterprise and the Nicaraguan Catholic Church. It has also been reported that the senators are on an observation tour.

However, no official report has been issued on the objective of the visit of the U.S. senators. It has been indicated that the two senators will return to the United States today.

'OPERATION ORION' CITED AS U.S. CONSPIRACY

PA150304 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] Confidential reports sent to EL NUEVO DIARIO of Managua, our capital, contain data alerting us to a conspiracy being plotted against Nicaragua and the revolutionary forces of Central America. Its beginning is "Operation Orion," which will be continued in "Operation Shield." For this, U.S. imperialism is installing in (Meanguera), Honduras, a powerful radio station with relays in Puerto Lempira, Honduras, and in Tortuguero, Costa Rica. From there, they will use the radio stations to bombard Nicaragua with counter-revolutionary programs. But they will bombard not only Nicaragua: their radius will be all of Central America.

We add to this report the fact that more than 700 former Somozist guardsmen have been moved from Guatemala to fight the revolutionary forces of El Salvador.

We continue to describe for our listeners "Operation Orion," which is the name of the conspiracy against Nicaragua revealed by EL NUEVO DIARIO of Managua:

The former Somozist guardsmen were recruited by [Guatemalan] Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz and Col Raul Alvarez, [Guatemalan] general director of immigration. They were equipped and uniformed to enter action on 29 December 1980.

Their baptism of fire occurred in early January at Guazapa hill, which the Salvadoran Army has tried unsuccessfully to capture since then. The wounded were taken to hospitals on Swan Island, which belongs to Honduras, and the most critically wounded to Ft Allen in Puerto Rico, where up to now there are 29 wounded Nicaraguans, considered in very critical condition. Among the members of the Nicaraguan brigade, there is not a single officer; all are former enlisted men or men who never reached the rank of sergeant.

We now conclude the development of "Operation Orion," which is the name imperialism has given to the plan to destabilize the Sandinist people's revolution, published by EL NUEVO DIARIO of Managua:

"Puerto Rican Hands Off El Salvador" read the slogans painted on the streets and walls of the present North American colony, where it is a widely known secret that over 600 600 Boricuas [Puerto Ricans] are members of the U.S. Army in that country.

Going back to the communications portion of "Orion," it is easy to see that to install a radio station and two relay stations in such strategic places will permit sending not only counterrevolutionary information to Nicaragua and all of Central America, but also jamming any information with which imperialism does not agree. It is enough to recall that in the Panama Canal Zone, communications technicians training under the vigilant eyes of U.S. specialists later will work out of each country intimately linked to special aid-dependent organizations.

LA PRENSA CRITICIZES LEVEL OF SOVIET AID

PA141939 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Mar 81 p 2

[Article by Zadia Garcia: "Let the USSR Help Us"]

[Text] Nicaragua is experiencing an acute economic crisis which requires the assistance of all powerful and friendly nations of the world. We need soft loans and financing for our economy. We also need bread and wheat, or the equivalent of these--a loan to buy them.

The USSR is a prosperous country whose economy is not deteriorating like that of the United States, according to German Shlyapnikov, Soviet ambassador to Nicaragua. Why, then, doesn't the USSR give us enough aid?

If we analyze the foreign aid given to Nicaragua for its reconstruction, we discover that of all the countries in the world, the USSR, or Russia as we call it, is one of those that has given least. For example, the USSR surprisingly gave only about \$8,000 for the literacy campaign, in contrast to the \$22 million donated by the United States. Additionally, it is well-known that the United States, which is officially the "enemy of humanity" (according to the anthem of the party in power), has granted over \$160 million to date, of which \$112 million have already been disbursed.

How much has been given by the USSR, which the commanders and BARRICADA present as the friend of humanity? Very little, so little that we do not know the figure.

Why doesn't it give us more? The USSR is a country that invests the astronomical figure of \$65 billion a year for military expenditures.

Could it not give us 0.001 percent of that sum?

We also have the acute problem of bread. Shlyapnikov has said that it is immoral for one nation to pressure another by denying it bread--a reference to the United States.

We therefore ask him: Why don't you give us the bread the United States does not wish to sell us? Do you not, does not the USSR, our partner in solidarity, have as great an obligation to give us bread as the United States?

A lack of money or of wheat cannot be the pretext for denying us your aid. The USSR has money, because it can spend billions in weapons, and moreover--as the Soviet ambassador said--its economy is prosperous. It also has wheat. Juan Carlos Estrada, who writes for BARRICADA, wrote a short time ago:

"We suggest that the editorial board of the newspaper LA PRENSA consult the 1979 World Almanac, which is printed in the United States, so that it can see that the USSR is the world's leading producer of wheat. The 1977 figures indicate that the USSR surpassed the United States, China, India, France, and so forth.

"We are citing a publication that undoubtedly has credibility in the eyes of the editors of LA PRENSA. There are also other sources that indicate that the average annual grain harvest during the 1976-80 5-year period was 209 million tons and that in 1978 there was a record crop of 237.2 million tons.

"Thus, the Soviets enjoy an excellent quantity of bread, even in drought-stricken years.

"Why, then, does the USSR buy wheat from the United States and other countries? It does so, first, because it has the money to do so and second because its livestock consumes twice as much grain as the population."

Our question again is, why does the USSR not talk less about solidarity and proletarian internationalism and help us more? After all, it is not fair that, while Russian livestock consumes twice as much as the inhabitants of the country, we are in danger of going without bread.

MANAGUA DENOUNCES U.S. PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

PA161632 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Station commentary: "New Anti-Imperialist Campaign Against Nicaragua"]

[Text] Within the framework of its constant pressures against the Nicaraguan revolution, the U.S. Government has now unleashed a publicity campaign in connection with the defensive measures adopted by Sandino's people.

For the State Department officials and for the press media controlled by Washington, Nicaragua's decision to strengthen the Sandinist People's Militia and to fend off the attacks on its territory is an unforgivable sin.

We are worried about that decision. It is a factor that contributes to instability in Central America, William Dyess, a State Department spokesman, has publicly affirmed. Somewhat nostalgically, he recalled that the Somozist National Guard never numbered as many members as today's militia, which is due to the people's enthusiasm.

The position adopted by the Reagan administration should not surprise anybody, particularly if one bears in mind its already long history of hostilities toward the Sandinist revolutionary process in less than 60 days of government. In only 2 months, the U.S. executive branch has approved and carried out acts of economic aggression as blatant as the suspension of delivery of a \$75 million loan that had already been approved by the U.S. Congress. As if this were not enough, in what constitutes an unprecedented decision, the U.S. Government has deprived the Nicaraguan people of the wheat flour they need to make their bread by denying them the credit it had promised earlier.

Now the United States does not want Nicaragua to defend itself from the armed attacks that the Somozist elements who have sought refuge in Honduras and Guatemala, are constantly carrying out at the border. These attacks have already resulted in the death of scores of innocent civilians.

Furthermore, the U.S. ideas are being aired at a time when several U.S. publications have been referring to the existence in the United States of military training camps for Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries who hope to attack their own country.

Meanwhile, the reactionary publications that are edited here in Nicaragua under the existing guarantees for freedom of opinion, very openly participate in the campaigns launched against the revolution and exaggerate the activities carried out by the elements and organizations that advocate a return to the past.

As a political observer has noted, in view of this panorama, it is only logical that the mass organizations and the entire Nicaraguan people should heed the appeals for strengthening the defense, joining the people's militia and even marching to the border zone to fight Somozist infiltration.

CPDH HEAD SCORED FOR RETRACTING CONFESSION

PA141404 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] After his slanderous pilgrimage through the capitals of the world, Jose Esteban Gonzalez, the so-called national coordinator of the self-styled Permanent Human Rights Commission [CPDH], returned to the country against whose people, organized as a governing people, he had spat the poison of distortion and lies.

Once his mission abroad was completed, he returned to the country with a big smile but was met at the airport with the holy ire of the people whom he and his mentors, with repressed anger had called mobs, scum or Nicolasian gangs [referring to Nicolasa, a female Somozist leader].

He was tried for his criminal activities against the Nicaraguan people and their revolutionary government, but his guilty conscience and the possibility of a well-deserved sentence, made the international slanderer admit in a writ, willingly presented to the judge, that he had committed errors and that he retracted the slanders he said against his country. Overwhelmed by the weight of evidence against him, and convinced that he would have no legal escape from his situation, Jose Esteban Gonzalez even said in his writ that he is a revolutionary.

I must say now, he said with feigned humility, that I am completely identified with the principles of this revolution, as I have always been, and I shall continue striving for its perfection and total success. In order to wash his hands like the well-known Pontius Pilate, he said: I have never accused the National Reconstruction Government of sanctioning or tolerating the use of torture and I am not doing so now, either personally or as coordinator of the human rights commission.

But no sooner was Esteban Gonzalez back home than he felt he must rectify his retraction. We have with us a new statement issued by him on 11 March 1981 where he confirms his political mission of rejecting the revolution with the following words: In Nicaragua there is no full freedom of expression. Yet LA PRENSA freely published his slanderous statement.

Gonzalez adds that decrees 511, 512 and other similar dispositions violate human rights. This man who did everything possible to deprive the Nicaraguan people of the wheat it needs to eat--this is a vital human right--said that in Nicaragua there is no respect for labor and political freedom, conceals the fact that his Social Christian mentors can say whatever they want in the press and over the radio and that the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers even promotes sabotage in the sugar mills.

Rectifier Gonzalez also clamors because there are no election dates, forgetting that 1985 has been officially set for the solution of this problem which has embittered him so much. But not satisfied, this gentleman of rectifications, says that there are an important number of crimes and violent deaths which have not been solved by the respective authorities and that they can be described as unpunished crimes. Declaring himself innocent, he says that he has never retracted anything, nor will he ever do so.

We see that this man, who makes retractions every chance he gets, has an inveterate yen for retractions. Such are the vagaries of this deluded gentleman.

LA PRENSA CONSENTS TO SUSPEND 15, 16 MAR ISSUES

PA151745 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1708 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 15 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The newspaper LA PRENSA which maintains a critical position toward the Sandinist government, will not circulate either today or tomorrow.

According to Pedro Joaquín Chamorro Barrios, the paper's codirector, LA PRENSA will not circulate today "at a suggestion by the interior minister, Commander Tomas Borge, which we regarded as acceptable."

On Saturday evening, a group of demonstrators stood outside the paper's installations, located in the northern outskirts of Managua. No incidents were reported, however.

Interior Minister Borge showed up at the paper's installations to offer police protection to the newspaper.

Commander Borge told the paper's editors that due to the tense situation prevailing in the country, it was advisable to keep the paper from circulating.

When Commander Borge suggested this, the Sunday edition had already been printed, but since the minister's indications were accepted, the paper will not circulate today.

According to Chamorro Barrios, the paper's installations remain under police protection, but the paper will not circulate tomorrow either "for other reasons," such as difficulties in distributing the paper in the interior.

Last night's demonstrators arrived at the LA PRENSA installations to protest a rally announced by the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Movement. In the end was not held today.

PORTUGUESE ACCUSED IN ECUADOR EMBASSY INCIDENT

PA162323 Paris AFP in English 2317 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Havana, 16 Mar (AFP)--Cuba today officially accused Portuguese Charge d'Affaires in Havana Francisco de Sales Mascarena of having taken part in preparing a recent attack on the Ecuadoran Embassy here by a group of 14 Cubans.

They were ejected from the building after kidnapping three diplomats on the embassy staff.

In a communique issued here today, the Cuban Foreign Ministry also said that "the CIA (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency) organized this provocation to affect relations between Cuba and Ecuador."

GRENADIAN AMBASSADOR WANTS GOOD U.S. RELATIONS

FL132330 Bridgetown CANA in English 2315 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Havana, 13 Mar, (CANA-REUTER)--Grenada expects closer collaboration with Cuba but also desires good relations with the United States, Grenada's ambassador in Cuba, Richard Jacobs, said today.

Mr Jacobs was speaking at a news conference to mark the second anniversary of the overthrow of the regime of Eric Gairy and the establishment of a revolutionary government in Grenada under Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

He said his government wanted to improve relations with the United States but that "Washington cannot expect to subvert the revolution."

The United States encouraged hostile propaganda against the Grenadian revolution, he said. He also accused the U.S. of "harboring Eric Gairy" and refusing to extradite him to Grenada.

Mr Jacobs said a Grenadian proposal for a meeting to discuss differences with the United States had gone unanswered.

He said relations between Grenada and Cuba were excellent and that Cuba had aided Grenada in many spheres.

BRIEFS

GRENADA SOLIDARITY EVENT--The national event of the Federation of University Students--FEU--of solidarity with Grenada's people and students was held at the Comrado Benitez Theater in Ciudad Libertad. The ceremony was attended by Grenada's Ambassador to Cuba Richard Jacobs and FEU National President Roberto Robaina. In a speech at the ceremony, Celestino Rivera, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Continental Organization of Latin American Students, noted the importance of Grenada's revolution and ratified the solidarity of the continent's student body. In his closing remarks at the ceremony of FEU solidarity with Grenada, Ambassador Jacobs noted the importance of the internationalist aid received by his country, and asserted that in its second anniversary the revolution headed by Bishop is very strong. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1224 GMT 12 Mar 81 FL]

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR--Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of the Council of State, has received His Excellency Masao Tsukamoto, who presented his credentials as ambassador of Japan. Cuban acting Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada participated in the ceremony. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 81 FL]

BAHAMASPINDLING OPTIMISTIC ON ECONOMIC RECESSION

FL161909 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Excerpts] The prime minister and minister of economic affairs, the Right Honorable Lynden O. Pindling, this morning officially opened the third annual seminar of the Association of International Banks in the Bahamas. News editor Lionel Dorsett attended the morning session:

[Begin Dorsett recording] Delegates attending the third annual seminar of the Association of International Banks in the Bahamas were told this morning by Prime Minister the Right Honorable Lynden Pindling that they had a very important role to play. The international banks, said Mr Pindling, must look ahead and continue to play their important role in sustaining worldwide growth of input, trade and employment for, as he put it, both the developing and the developed world have become increasingly dependent on resources provided by the international banks. The prime minister noted that the aid provided by the official international financial institutions, by the OCP [expansion unknown] countries, and by direct foreign investment have failed to keep pace with the growing requirements of capital funds. The prime minister then outlined the role the Bahamas plays in international banking.

Mr Pindling said the most serious development that is causing widespread, real concern is the deterioration [of] the world's economic situation. The prime minister noted that the Bahamas is increasingly feeling the adverse impact of recessionary trends and high rates of interest in North America and Western Europe. However, on a note of optimism, Mr Pindling also noted that there are some important developments which encourage him to believe that the world economic recession that is already under way will be of limited duration and that the Bahamas will continue to enjoy economic growth and relative prosperity. One of those positive developments lessening of tension in the immediate future, for example, the protracted Iranian crisis being solved and the apprehension of the confrontation between Russia and the United States. [sentence as heard]

The main purpose of the 2-day conference being held at the Ambassador Beach Hotel is to investigate the role of international financial centers and the challenges of this decade to that role. The program will also cover current issues being made of offshore financial centers with particular reference to the areas of finance and international banking. A number of speakers, including the deputy prime minister and the minister of finance, the Honorable Arthur D. Hanna, are expected to address the conference which concludes tomorrow evening. Lionel Dorsett, ZNS News. [end recording]

BARBADOSOPPOSITION SAYS GOVERNMENT OVERSPENDING ON DEFENSE

FL162327 Bridgetown CANA in English 2310 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, 16 Mar (CANA)--Barbados official opposition, the Democratic Labor Party (DLP), today told the government that it was concerned about what it called overspending on national defense and security.

At the same time the DLP warned that government's plans to strengthen the Barbados Defense Force (BDF) could backfire by ending with military unrest.

The DLP's concern was raised during parliamentary debate on the draft estimates of government's revenue and expenditure for the financial year 1981-82. The debate opened today.

Prime Minister Tom Adams rejected the opposition claims. He described the planned spending on defense and security as necessary for, among other things, upgrading the force, while stating that the forces personnel were responsible persons.

Debate on the draft estimates started around 10 a.m. and was continuing tonight.

Government is planning to spend a record 668.6 million dollars (1 Bds dollar; 50 cents US) in the next financial year starting in April. This represents an increase of approximately 134 million dollars over the 1980-81 original figures in the estimates.

The next financial year government is planning to push capital expenditure (money on government projects) from 5 million dollars to 14 million dollars for national security and defense.

The money is earmarked for construction of a coast guard base and the purchase of vehicles and equipment, among other things.

DOMINICA

GRENADE URGED TO NEGOTIATE WITH PUBLIC WORKERS

FL161951 Bridgetown CANA in English 1933 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Roseau, Dominica, 16 Mar, (CANA)--The Dominica Civil Service Association (CSA) has called on the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in Grenada to re-open negotiations with that country's public workers unions with a view at reaching an "amicable settlement" in their industrial dispute.

Public servants in Grenada have been off their jobs since 3 March after negotiations for a new industrial agreement between their unions and government became deadlocked.

The workers said they will call off their industrial action if government recalls the letters of warning and notices of transfer issued last Friday to the employees who went on a sick-out.

The CSA in a cable sent to Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said that since the unions involved had agreed to suspend their industrial action, it wanted the Bishop regime to reopen negotiations "with a view to arriving at an amicable settlement of question of salary increases for civil servants."

The CSA warned that "the present impasse" is severely "eroding PRG's stock of goodwill among progressive elements both within and outside the civil service in Dominica."

GRENADE

PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINS NONALIGNED POSITION

FL162258 Bridgetown CANA in English 2251 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 16 Mar (CANA)--Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said here that nonalignment did not mean that Grenada should be an eunuch in international affairs.

The island is a member of the Nonaligned Movement and has in the past 2 years developed warm relations with the communist world, while those with the U.S. have at best been cool.

Bishop gave his government's definition of nonalignment as Grenada moved out of second anniversary celebrations to face the problems of a challenging year.

"When we say we are nonaligned," he declared here to the press, "we are not at all saying that we see our country as being a political eunuch...that we see our country as having no right to an opinion...that nonalignment means neutrality.

"For the People's Revolutionary Government, nonalignment is a positive concept, expressing a belief in certain principles. For the PRG nonalignment means anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist, anti-neocolonialist, anti-racist and anti-fascist."

It also meant belief in a new international economic order, and the right of countries to develop themselves and their own resources free from outside interference, aggression and threats.

Bishop had been asked how come Grenada as a nonaligned country never differed from Cuba and the Soviet Union when voting in international fora on foreign policy matters.

He said he did not have the voting records of Cuba and the Soviet Union and so was not in a position to accept the suggestion that Grenada's vote never differed from theirs.

He emphasized that his government's foreign policy was based on the principles of nonalignment as outlined by him, and that he did not have to be "looking around the shoulder" to see how other people were voting.

"I can tell you here and now that on any such fundamental question as El Salvador, where the question is put in those terms and a vote has to be cast, if I had to look around my shoulder to who was voting with me, the country I would be looking at would be the United States."

BISHOP SAYS RELATIONS WITH UK 'NOT GOOD'

PA161249 Paris AFP in English 0402 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 16 Mar (AFP)--Leftwing Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said here at the weekend that relations with Britain were currently "not good."

At a press conference Saturday, Mr Bishop added that the British had recently made statements attacking the Grenada Peoples Revolutionary Government and that a British minister had said recently that Grenada would not get British aid.

Mr Bishop said that Grenada had not received aid from Britain for the last 2 years and all that had come were "just some little drops that were left from the previous agreement with (deposed Prime Minister Eric) Gairy."

He said this was not surprising considering the attitude of the British Government inside its own country. "It is not just a conservative ruling party," he said, "it is a racist ruling party."

"I expect that, until the Conservative Party is removed--which seems to be not too far away--relations with the British Government are not likely to be very good," Mr Bishop added.

COUP ATTEMPT BY 'SOLDIERS AND MERCENARIES' FOILED

PA162104 Paris AFP in Spanish 2007 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Georgetown, 16 Mar (AFP)--According to transmissions monitored here, a coup d'etat of a confusing ideological trend failed Sunday night in Suriname (former Dutch Guyana) which has been experiencing a year of struggle between factions of pro-Cuban and pro-Western military officers.

Other reports reveal the death of a noncommissioned officer who was killed in a bomb attack. He was one of the noncommissioned officers who installed a military regime in 1980, but the relations between this incident and the thwarted coup is not clear.

According to an official report issued in Paramaribo, "a group of soldiers and mercenaries" tried to take over the Foreign Ministry last night and this resulted in one person dead and seven wounded.

The prohibition on people gaining access to the hospital in Paramaribo led people to believe that the number of victims was higher than that cited in the official report.

According to unofficial reports, certain rich businessmen of Chinese decent were arrested by security forces during the night.

In the area of Saramacca, 65 km from Paramaribo, the shooting continues, the same sources said.

Suriname has been experiencing disturbances and a contradictory political situation since February 1980, when the so-called Sergeants' Coup, which overthrew Prime Minister Henck Arron, was staged.

Incidentally, one of those noncommissioned officers, Sergeant Hawker, was killed yesterday in an attack shortly before the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY reported "an abortive coup d'etat."

According to the Paramaribo correspondent of the Dutch agency who was quoting an unofficial source, the attack took place in Saramacca. The occupants of a car shot at the automobile Sergeant Hawker was traveling in. Hawker died in a hospital shortly after the attack.

A few weeks ago Sergeant Gore, another leader of the February 1980 coup, was the victim of a similar attack.

The struggle between factions in the military team has been continuous and marked by accusations between so-called pro-Westerners and pro-socialists. The borderline between trends was never clear-cut.

After Prime Minister Henck Arron's overthrow, a civilian government led by Attorney Chin A Sen was established with the support of the National Military Council which initially favored socializing the nation.

However, on 13 August 1980 a countercoup eliminated the so-called pro-Cuban element, whose most prominent exponent was Maj Badreissen Sital.

Since then the strongman has been Maj Daysi Bouterse, a bearded giant who, the day after the countercoup, stated that he was "opposed to any extreme leftwing system."

Surprisingly, Bouterse himself, who seemed to be pro-Western, on Saturday called a news conference to say: "Suriname continues with its socialist revolution, with Cuba as its example."

Apparently that statement unleashed the coup attempt which, according to that hypothesis, may have been called "rightist."

However, Chin A Sen himself, in a statement broadcast in Paramaribo, labeled the rebels "leftist."

It is impossible at this time to obtain further direct reports from Suriname, whose government in October imposed censorship on every press dispatch going out of the country.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER ON REGIONAL RELATIONS

FL131923 Bridgetown CANA in English 1904 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 13 Mar, (CANA)--Suriname said it is seriously considering applying for associate status with Caribbean Community (CARICOM) which groups 13 English-speaking territories in the Caribbean.

Making the announcement was Suriname's Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Harvey Naarandorp who said that if his country is to take its place in the world, it must establish as many friendly relations as possible.

He said it was very important that small states join together to protect their sovereignty so that they do not become victims of the super powers.

He said the reason why Suriname was not a member of CARICOM was because it did not have the necessary infrastructure to handle such relations.

Dr Naarandorp observed that CARICOM was regarded seriously by Suriname and they were considering associate membership of the Caribbean grouping shortly.

He also made reference to problems faced by CARICOM and opined that these were due largely to "individualistic attitudes" of some member states.

"But believe that we must establish good relations in the field of trade and culture after which political alignment could be considered. The latter will have to be done on as broad a basis as possible," he declared.

Dr Naarandorp also spoke of relations with Grenada, and Nicaragua. He said that in the case of Grenada as with other states in the Caribbean relations must be established on a mutually acceptable basis.

In a wider foreign relations context, Dr Naarandorp said Suriname was against any interference by super powers to assert themselves over small states.

He said he made this point very forcefully during his speech at the conference of foreign ministers of nonaligned conference [as received] in New Delhi recently.